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CONTENTS

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Editorial on U.S. Response to Soviet Initiatives [PRAVDA 24 Aug] AA 1
Bovin Remarks on U.S. ASAT Weapons Testing AA 4
McFarlane Speech on U.S.-Soviet Relations AA 4
TASS Political News Analyst [Fedorov] AA 4
PRAVDA Rejoinder [Sukhoy 25 Aug] AA 5
U.S. Actions Termed 'Premeditated Sabotage' AA 6
Week of 'Provocation' AA 7
Firing of Silo-Based MX Missile Reported AA 8

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' [Andrianov, Volskiy, Nekrasov] CC 1
Nuclear Moratorium CC 1
Peaceful Uses of Space CC 1
U.S. Antisatellite Test CC 3
South Africa, U.S. Racism CC 4
U.S.-Sponsored Unrest CC 7

UNITED STATES & CANADA

U.S. Accusations Over Chemical Dust Condemned A 1
Reports 'Absurd' [Kudrin] A 1
Western Sources Cited A 1
Propaganda Ploy [Tsvetov] A 2
'Dangerous Consequences' Noted [Kulik] A 3
IZVESTIYA on Congressional Delegation Visit [22 Aug] A 4

CHINA

Shevardnadze Receives PRC Ambassador 23 Aug B 1
XINHUA Notes USSR's Role in Japanese War B 1
Wreath-Laying Ceremony for Soviet Dead in Beijing B 1
Beijing Radio Resumes Russian Language Lessons B 1

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japanese-U.S. SDI Agreement Planned for Fall C 1
Joint Meeting Discusses Far East Cooperation C 1
ROK Opposition Leader Placed Under House Arrest C 1
Briefs: Mongolian Consulate in Kiev C 1

SOUTH ASIA

Pakistani Minister Confers With Korniyenko D 1
[KUNA]
Afghan Proposals Aimed at Peace for Region D 1
Sikh Leader's Killing Planned, Financed Abroad D 2
[PRAVDA 23 Aug]
Koshoyev-Led Delegation Meets Ghandi in Delhi D 2

WESTERN EUROPE

FRG Politicians Condemn Binary Weapons Storage G 1
Public Figures Urge UK Nuclear Moratorium G 1
[IZVESTIYA 23 Aug]
PRAVDA Notes European Concern at NATO Maneuvers G 2
[23 Aug]
Start of NATO Air Force Maneuvers Reported G 2
Comments on Gen Abrahamson's Visit to Italy G 3
France to Continue Mururoa Nuclear Tests G 3
[PRAVDA 18 Aug]
Left-Wing Alliance Formed in Portugal G 3
FRG, USSR Representatives Discuss Moscow Treaty G 4
Turkish Minister's 20-23 Aug Visit Reported G 5

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Saudi Prince Faysal ibn Fahd Arrives 22 Aug H 1
[SPA]
Meets Korniyenko H 1
[KUNA]
TASS Interview Reported H 1
[SPA]
'Shortsighted' Israeli Policy Hinders Settlement H 2
[Bovin]
Commentary Views 'Despotic' Regime in Iran H 3
[Bovin]
Briefs: Soviet-Iraqi Friendship Days H 4

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Reagan's Praise of Central America Policy Scorned [Knyazev] K 1
Nicaragua Claims CIA Planned Bishop's Slaying K 2
TASS Views U.S.-Honduras 'Cabanas-85' Exercises K 2
Ortega Outlines U.S. Plans for Intervention K 2

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Gorbachev, Leaders Hold Economic Conference R 1
[PRAVDA 25 Aug]
Demichev Attends Moscow Theater Premiere R 3
[PRAVDA 23 Aug]
Dolgikh Attends Miners' Day Ceremonies R 3
Deputy Minister Appointments Reported R 3
[SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSSR: OTDEL PERVYY No 20]
RSFSR Council Discusses Gas Supplies, Tractors R 3
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 21 Aug]
Kalinin Obkom Chief Retires; Tatarchuk Elected R 4

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

PRAVDA Cites Complaints About Consumer Goods S 1
[21 Aug]
New Consumer Services in RSFSR Scrutinized S 2

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Molniya-1 Communications Satellite Lauched U 1
Launch of Cosmos-1677 Earth Satellite Reported U 1
Six Point Earthquake Jolts Tashkent U 1

EDITORIAL ON U.S. RESPONSE TO SOVIET INITIATIVES

LD231942 Moscow TASS in English 1940 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, August 23 TASS -- The newspaper PRAVDA in the August 24 issue carries an editorial [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian uses "redaktsionnaya statya"] titled "The World Ought To Know About This". Following is the text of the article:

It is no overstatement that peoples have never before had such a striving for peace, a striving to stop the race of armaments, above all nuclear ones, avert the war menace and achieve a turn from confrontation to peaceful cooperation. It is no accident that the Soviet Union's latest peace initiatives evoked such an extensive positive response from most diverse circles in different countries, inspired hopes for changes for the better.

The introduction by the Soviet Union of a moratorium on any nuclear explosions from August 6, the day of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, evoked a tremendous response. In order to curb the nuclear arms race and to erect obstacles in its way, it is first of all necessary to stop nuclear tests. And then move downwards, toward the reduction and total elimination of nuclear weapons.

This was a bold step, an initiative designed to persuade other nuclear nations, and above all the United States, to follow our example.

The Soviet side took into account the historic precedent -- the signing in 1963 of the Moscow treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and underwater, which showed that, given political will and realistic approach to the current world situation, it is possible to achieve results in the solution of the most acute and complicated international problems.

Our initiative received understanding and support of the broadest circles of the world public, including in the United States. This was because people on earth perceived it to be a practical step along the road towards defusing international tension, towards life in the world in which there should be no room for nuclear weapons.

The world public assessed the Soviet Union's action as a logical continuation of the pledge earlier adopted by our state -- not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. It was also viewed as a real factor designed to facilitate success at the Soviet-American talks on space and nuclear armaments in Geneva.

Several months before, the Soviet Union introduced another moratorium -- that on the deployment in Europe of medium-range missiles and the adoption of countermeasures in connection with the stationing of American Pershing II's on the European Continent. We are prepared for a zero option in the correlation of medium-range missiles between the USSR and the United States in Europe, are ready to leave only as many missiles as France and Great Britain possess.

We are also ready for a radical reduction in strategic nuclear armaments in accordance with the principle of equality and equal security.

Earth is already overflowing with nuclear weapons. The plans to spread the arms race into outer space, nurtured and implemented by the White House, amount to madness. The Soviet leadership declared with full certainty that the USSR will not be the first to bring weapons into outer space. Our moratorium on the launching of anti-satellite weapons has been in effect for two years already.

We proposed that the USSR and the United States stop all work on developing anti-satellite systems and eliminate those that are in existence.

The proposals for international cooperation in peaceful exploration of outer space in the conditions of its non-militarization, just tabled by the Soviet Union at the United Nations, constitute a new constructive programme of preventing an arms race in outer space.

All these peaceful, constructive and realistic proposals of ours have been motivated by one thing, namely the striving to arrest mankind's sliding to thermo-nuclear war. Advancing these proposals, the Soviet Union was least of all seeking their propaganda effect. The essence of its initiatives is one: to create the favourable atmosphere, the real conditions for the mankind to pause, look around, realise the dangerousness of the nuclear arms race and jointly get down to their reduction. The Soviet Union hoped that the U.S. side will duly assess all the seriousness of the situation and respond positively to our initiatives prompted by the concern about universal peace and security of peoples. For weapons which we suggest freezing, reducing, and in the long run eliminating, pose mortal danger to everyone, including the people of the United States.

In what way has Washington answered this?

First, particularly after the Soviet Union introduced a moratorium on nuclear weapon tests, it answered with silence which covered up obvious confusion. Having slightly recovered from it, they in Washington started feverishly casting about for the cleverest ways of avoiding the answer to the direct and clear Soviet proposals.

And since they had nothing with which to answer them in essence, they proclaimed these proposals to be "propaganda". This gimmick failed, for when one side stops nuclear explosions, this is not propaganda but an example to follow.

Now they have come up with the problem of control asserting that the ending of tests cannot be verified. This was deliberate lie. Specialists know full well that with the existing scientific and technical means it is impossible to conceal a nuclear explosion, even one of a small yield.

And then they resorted to outright exaggerations. Ignoring elementary arithmetic, the Washington propagandists tried to prove that the Soviet Union carried more tests than the USA, so the hands of Americans are untied. But this falsification has not lasted for long. It is well known that they across the ocean staged a far greater number of tests than we did.

A nuclear explosion was set off in Nevada in answer to the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests. According to the information received not from the U.S. sources the explosion with a yield of not less than 20 kilotons was made on August 17 at the depth of 330 metres 120 kilometres north-west of Las Vegas. As we see, the assertions of American politicians that national verification system are ineffective are untenable.

In this connection I would like to recall what was said recently by Mikhail Gorbachev in his answers to questions from a TASS correspondent: "The scientific and technical possibilities existing in this country, in the United States and in other countries provide the necessary degree of confidence that a nuclear explosion, even of a small yield, will be detected and will become known..." "In short, we are for a verification of the ending of nuclear explosions but we are against the cessation of tests being substituted by their continuation in the presence of observers," Mikhail Gorbachev stressed.

Our proposals at the United Nations about international cooperation in peaceful exploration of outer space in the conditions of its non-militarisation and our moratorium on anti-satellite weapon tests were answered by the USA with a report that it will hold shortly the first test of such weapons at a real target in space.

To cover up at least slightly its militarist, hegemonistic ambitions and its desire to achieve military-strategic superiority over the USSR, the USA has launched a new anti-Soviet campaign. The higher White House echelons have joined in it. Presidential Adviser Robert McFarlane went into attack with a set of rabid anti-Soviet concoctions.

Everything has been brought into play: discourses on Soviet superiority in nuclear weapons, used on more than one occasion in the past, allegations that we have long been developing and producing space-based ASAT systems, claims that we are violating our commitments under the treaties on nuclear weapons and ABM defences. They have even roped in "human rights violations" and gone so far as alleging that some chemicals are used against U.S. diplomats in Moscow. In so doing, they have cited no proof because there is none, nor can there be any.

Escalating its anti-Soviet campaign, Washington is doing whatever it can to involve its West European allies in it. Tension is being whipped up, for instance, in Britain in connection with the largest military exercises since the Second World War, Brave Defender, due to begin in September. The purpose of the exercises is to repulse an "attack" of "Soviet special-purpose forces" on the British isles. Better to simulate "reality," it is planned to drop paratrooper units and to land naval beaching parties consisting of Russian-speaking "Soviet agents" in civilian clothes near major defence installations with instructions to subvert communication lines and plant mines, and also to foment public unrest.

This plan of the British authorities to all appearances, is not so much military as political. Its purpose is to create another negative "Soviet threat" stereotype, "international terrorism." The involvement of large numbers of the civilian population and broad announcements of the exercises to train methods of countering "Soviet subversives" are going to be used to brainwash the population in an Anti-Soviet spirit.

One is entitled to ask what is the purpose of all this ado in the United States and some NATO countries? Apparently, it is further to poison the atmosphere in relations between the USSR and the USA and to make the world public believe in advance that no substantial progress towards improving the international situation is possible. This idea is being preached day after day both by official White House spokesmen and by the U.S. mass media and propaganda bodies.

But the truth is that the U.S. Administration would not follow the road of detente and of ending the arms race. It is still seeking U.S. military superiority over the USSR and for this purpose keeps escalating the arms race. The world ought to know about this.

The world should also know that our country is trying to do everything possible to avert nuclear catastrophe. We are ready to go our part of the way towards that goal -- but the United States should go the other part, and not in words but in deeds.

BOVIN REMARKS ON U.S. ASAT WEAPONS TESTING

LD251543 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 25 Aug 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] A few words about a most alarming report which arrived this week. President Reagan informed the U.S. Congress about his decision to begin testing a weapons system designed to destroy satellites. The Americans have long been busy producing such weapons. The U.S. President's directives on the national space policy state with precision: The United States will continue to develop the potential of antisatellite systems with the aim of depriving any adversary of the possibility of making use of space-based systems designed to render support to armed forces.

The ASAT system, due to undergo tests, looks like this, approximately: The F-15 jet fighter-aircraft almost vertically lifts off towards the higher, upper layers of the atmosphere and launches a two-stage missile. The missile has a miniature homing device. It separates itself from the missile with the aid of infra-red sensors, homes in on the satellite and rams it. That is to say, the satellite under attack is destroyed, put out of action, by means of a simple blow, without an explosion.

As ever, the Americans talk of defense. However, the significance of the antisatellite system is quite different.

The significance is as follows: it ensures the possibility of survival for the aggressor, after it has delivered the first blow. One American specialist, Carris, attests that the development of antisatellite weapons would not have made any sense for the United States, if it were not for plans to deliver the first strike, to start a nuclear war.

Incidentally, this makes it completely justifiable to view the development of antisatellite systems within the framework of the work concerning the "star wars" program.

The Soviet Union proceeds from this: That security, that the ensuring of safety for the satellites of all states and each state serve, in the present conditions, as one of the elements of the general military-strategic stability in the world. As a good example and as far back as August 1983, the Soviet Union announced a moratorium on all launching and testing of such weapons.

Unfortunately, as we have repeatedly heard, Washington said no. Well, a very strange way, I would say, of preparing oneself for the Geneva summit meeting.

MCFARLANE SPEECH ON U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS

TASS Political News Analyst

LD241642 Moscow TASS in English 1631 GMT 24 Aug 85

["What Is it That Mr McFarlane Passed in Silence?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, August 24 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Sergey Fedorov writes:

The practice of international relations has shown long ago that given political good will and realistic approach to the situation shaping in the world, it is possible to achieve results in the solution of the acutest and most complex international problems. And conversely, the attempts to brand as "propaganda" any manifestations of such will by the other side, the deliberate bias with regard to the partner in talks, pessimistic predictions about a possible outcome of the talks can hardly be beneficial.

Statements with which some leaders of the Washington administration came out in the recent days, statements about the prospects of U.S.-Soviet relations are not optimistic, indeed. The voice of Robert McFarlane, assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs, sounds with particular belligerence in their chorus. He delivered a speech entitled "U.S.-Soviet Relations in the Late 20th Century" in one of the clubs of Santa Barbara the other day. THE WASHINGTON POST asserts that the speech was prepared in such a way as if McFarlane addressed directly the Soviet leadership, not U.S. audience.

How does one of Reagan's closest assistants view relations between Washington and Moscow, relations that considerably influence the international climate in the world? R. McFarlane says that it would be unjustifiable to expect too much from the summit meeting, that the conclusion of a large number of agreements in Geneva is not real, that the prospect of the signing of a treaty that would slow down the arms race is very vague. After noting that Reagan was ready to take "small steps forward" in Geneva, the assistant to the President says that they will be taken only " in proportion to Soviet action" to improve bilateral relations.

Meanwhile, if Washington reciprocated all constructive initiatives of Moscow, the USSR and the USA would have long since made a whole series of large steps along the road of normalisation of bilateral and international relations. The point of the matter is that those in the United States who linked their policy with the further spiralling of the arms race, who get considerable profits from this and persist with illusions to achieve military superiority in some or other way have no wish to take the road of detente, of ending the arms race.

Thus, a nuclear explosion was set off in the U.S. state of Nevada in answer to the Soviet moratorium on nuclear testing. The Soviet Union's proposals in the United Nations on international cooperation in peaceful exploration of outer space in the conditions of its non-militarisation and the Soviet Union's moratorium on anti-satellite weapon tests were answered by the United States with amassed preparation for tests of anti-satellite weapons at a real target in space.

Mr McFarlane passed all this in silence for the reason that the U.S. Administration has nothing to say. All its propaganda ploys, such as accusations levelled at the Soviet Union on the theme of violations of "human rights" and provocative inventions about the use of a certain chemical agent against U.S. diplomats in Moscow disintegrate when faced with facts. It becomes apparent to the world public that the United States is unwilling to use the real opportunity which is opened to the world by the Soviet Union's policy: to stop the further build up of nuclear arsenals, to tackle in earnest the task of their reduction and subsequent elimination.

PRAVDA Rejoinder

PM241618 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Aug 85 First Edition p 5

[V. Sukhoy "Rejoinder": "Alas, Nothing New"]

[Text] R. McFarlane, the U.S. President's national security assistant, delivered a speech entitled with deliberate meaningfulness [mnogoznachitelnost] "American-Soviet Relations at the End of the 20th Century" to a club in Santa Barbara (California).

White House spokesmen are currently insisting that the speaker's aim was to address the Soviet Union directly, not the American audience.

What was the crux of what people on the banks of the Potomac are calling a "special, purposeful, and detailed message to Moscow?" Alas everything is as antiquated as a jackboot on the deck of a modern American aircraft carrier. McFarlane falsely accused the USSR of carrying out work in the field of space weapons. He ascribed to the Soviet Union "actions to build up chemical weapons" and medium-range missiles in Europe; indicted our country for supporting the national liberation movement; and, of course, did not omit to mention the "dish of the day," those notorious "human rights." In this kind of situation, McFarlane stated innocently, the United States has no option but to take countermeasures.

What is the point of this entire propaganda show staged in a California resort town? If the high-ranking administration spokesman wanted to say that the United States is going to continue development of the "star wars" program, the chemical arms race, and the "crusade" against socialist policy, this could have been done without the false meaninfulness or the false accusations against our country. For who, if not the U.S. President's national security assistant, should know very well that the Soviet Union has not violated and is not violating the ABM treaty or the salt II treaty and that it is not us, but the United States that intends to unleash an arms race in space and achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union. Incidentally, the United States makes no secret of this in either word or action. Just one example is the recent White House announcement of plans to carry out the first test of an antisatellite weapon in space.

So, who was McFarlane trying to convince, and of what? The Soviet Union needs no convincing of anything. Evidence of this is provided by our recent peace initiatives, which are being broadly welcomed by the peace-loving public; but they meet with no understanding in Washington.

At the end of his speech, R. McFarlane noted that as the Soviet-American summit meeting approaches there is no need for the Soviet Union and the United States "to be eternally locked in enmity" and that a period of "flexibility and self-analysis" has allegedly now arrived. It is impossible to disagree with these words. The only thing, in our view, is that it is Washington that lacks "flexibility and self-analysis," and without this it will be very difficult to mend [ozdorovit] relations between the USSR and the United States.

U.S. ACTIONS TERMED 'PREMEDIATED SABOTAGE'

LD241827 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 24 Aug 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast, commentary by political observer Valentin Zorin]

[Text] The decision by President Reagan to embark in the near future on the testing of a new U.S. antisatellite weapon system against a target in space has given rise to sharp reaction by international public opinion. At the microphone is Soviet television political observer Valentin Zorin:

Hello, comrades! The world reaction to the hastily-announced decision by President Reagan is extremely negative. I say hastily, because this step, which is of such importance and so fraught with far-reaching consequences, was announced at the President's private ranch in California while he was recovering from a serious operation, and also at a time when the U.S. Congress was on its holiday recess.

Moreover, it is not simply a matter of yet another measure by the Washington administration, but of interconnected acts taken over the past few days aimed at sharply escalating the arms race. These actions hinder, in the most substantial way, the achievement of accords on the whole range of issues connected with ending the buildup in nuclear arsenals and preventing space from being used for military purposes.

First, in response to the decision by the USSR to end all nuclear explosions and its appeal for the United States to follow its example, Washington, not limiting itself to a refusal in words, carried out a deliberately provocative test on a nuclear device at a test area in Nevada. Now, a new challenge is being thrown down to world public opinion with the Washington administration announcing steps which mean nothing other than a practical start to the implementation of a program for the militarization of space.

One cannot but note the moment chosen by Washington for making such decisions. Our country has just proposed the question of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space under conditions of its nonmilitarization be included in the agenda at the 40th session of the UN General Assembly which opens in the middle of next month. A resumption of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva is forthcoming. And precisely at this moment arrangements are being made for a series of tests of U.S. antisatellite combat systems. How, other than as premeditated sabotage and the artificial piling up of obstacles on to the path of solving the most fundamental problems of today, can one view these latest acts by the U.S. leadership?

One other thing is indicative, too. All these acts are accompanied by an explosion of anti-Soviet propaganda hysteria that has long been absent in Washington: nonsensical inventions about Soviet espionage, absurd stores that are outside the limits of plausibility and political decencies about certain U.S. diplomats in Moscow allegedly being sprayed with some sort of chemical compound so that they can be shadowed, and attempts by the State Department to wreck the already ailing Soviet-U.S. cultural links -- all this has now been set in full motion.

What lies behind all this? What is Washington striving for? What aims is it pursuing? What political backdrop is it creating for the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. summit meeting this autumn? These questions cannot be of interest to Soviet public opinion.

Week of 'Provocation'

LD232046 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Washington correspondent Vladimir Dunayev report]

[Text] Not a day without a provocation, that is one way of describing this week. On Monday, the President's national security advisor Robert McFarlane spoke up in California using the language of the worst years of the Cold War. He spoke in the spirit of speeches made during the first few years of the present administration, in which our country was named none other than an evil empire. On Tuesday, commentators were still arguing about what had happened when suddenly there followed a presidential order to carry out tests of antisatellite weapons in space. Senator Kerry called this decision incredible. On Wednesday, the State Department announced an astonishing and fantastic piece of news; it turns out that Soviet agents in Moscow sprinkle a chemical preparation capable of causing cancer into American diplomats' cars. This news was the sheerest unmitigated nonsense, but nonetheless the chemical bomb was exploded on television and in the press.

One frenzied legislator demanded the closure of the American Embassy in Moscow. When Thursday dawned in Moscow, the Washington authorities, in a dramatic gesture, sent over a group of doctors to examine their diplomats. And finally today, the Pentagon stated that it was to carry out the first launching of an MX missile from a silo. Up to now, tests of these first strike missiles have been carried out from the surface; now, a combat launch is to be imitated. Quite a week! Although the captains of today's America could hardly have been called peace-loving beforehand, this week has seen a deliberately contrived, planned, and provocative parade of bellicose statements and measures. Local observers, especially those with more experience, have interpreted this as a reanimation of that section of the President's entourage which does not want a meeting in Geneva and is doing its utmost to undermine hope for progress in Soviet-American relations. This, unfortunately, is what one is forced to observe in Washington less than 3 months before the Soviet-American summit meeting.

FIRING OF SILO-BASED MX MISSILE REPORTED

LD232101 Moscow TASS in English 1946 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Washington, August 23 TASS -- The Pentagon today test-fired an MX first-strike intercontinental ballistic missile from an underground silo for the first time today. The missile carrying six unarmed warheads was launched from Vandenberg air base, California State, towards Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific.

This was the 9th out of twenty scheduled MX tests. The ASSOCIATED PRESS stresses that the Pentagon conducted the test in close to real conditions for the first time. The agency stresses that the task of the firing is to bring closer the implementation of the U.S. Air Force's objective of deploying the first ten MX missiles by December 1986. No official report on the results of the firing has so far been made.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD251804 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 25 Aug 85

["International Observers Roundtable" program, presented by Boris Vasilyevich Andrianov, all-Union Radio foreign policy commentator, with Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the NOVOYE VREMYA editorial board; and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, KOMMUNIST international observer]

Nuclear Moratorium

[Text] [Andrianov] Good day, comrades. Today, in our roundtable meeting, Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the NOVOYE VREMYA editorial board, and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, an international observer for KOMMUNIST, are taking part. Already 20 days have passed since the unilateral moratorium on any nuclear blasts, declared by the Soviet Union, came into force. One can say with confidence that the Soviet moratorium has become a major factor of world politics. Confirmation of this is the enormous impact which the Soviet initiative made on the mind and mood of the international public. Edward Luck, president of America's UN association, said the Soviet moratorium was the beginning of a new Soviet peace offensive. He pointed out that the Washington administration should have suggested a similar initiative a long time ago. The unwillingness of the United States to follow the Soviet Union's example, according to Edward Luck, again showed who is leading in the struggle for arms restriction and disarmament.

The authoritative opinion of this prominent American public figure is shared by representatives of the widest circles abroad. The public forces see in this new step by the Soviet Union the real possibility of coming to a quick agreement to stop all nuclear tests, which in practice will bring the world closer to nuclear disarmament, because our country declared clearly that it is ready to extend the time of the moratorium if this action finds a positive response in Washington. The Soviet Union is ready to go much further, because our aim, underlined Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev when answering the questions of a TASS correspondent, is the complete and universal ending of nuclear weapons testing, and not some sort of respite between blasts. The idea is simple -- in order to reverse, it is necessary at first to stop. Because of this, in the comments on the Soviet initiative, the hope is being expressed that a moratorium on testing will become the turning point in the further destiny of nuclear arms.

However, official Washington has refused to take up the Soviet initiative. In connection with this, THE NEW YORK TIMES notes that strategists of Reagan's administration do not wish to stop. In the White House they refer to the imaginary lagging behind by the United States in the field of nuclear arms, which dictates the necessity to complete the American testing program. The groundlessness of arguments of this sort is being revealed by Greenberg, the famous American specialist in questions of disarmament, the editor of the magazine SCIENCE AND GOVERNMENT REPORT, who notes that from the beginning of the nuclear age up to 1984, the United States has conducted 200 nuclear tests more than the Soviet Union. He points out that the arguments of the opponents of the introduction of a ban are absolutely groundless.

Peaceful Uses of Space

[Nekrasov] Comrades, I would like to draw your attention to the paragraph of a recently published news report about the regular meeting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the paragraph where questions connected with the forthcoming 40th UN General Assembly session are reported.

Being the 40th session, it is a jubilee meeting. The 40th anniversary of the United Nations is one more vivid reminder of the very close link between the results of the Second World War, the results of the great victory of the Soviet people, and our affairs today and international life in general. Because of this, the paragraph contained in the report of the Politburo meeting is of principled importance. It has been confirmed that the Soviet Union attaches great significance to the United Nations as the effective tool of peace. The USSR will continue to aim to secure implementation in practice of the just, democratic principles in international relations on which the United Nations was founded 40 years ago. This, as you know, is not simply a declaration of good intentions. During the past few years, literally since the first session of the General Assembly, since the first meetings of the Security Council, the Soviet Union, by deeds, by its numerous proposals -- the majority of which in one form or another have been turned into UN decisions -- actively and purposefully assisted in the implementation of the organization's mission.

The Soviet Union is going to the 40th session with a new, important, and very interesting initiative. It concerns the proposals put forward by our country, which have been called the main directions and principles of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space in conditions of its nonmilitarization. The Soviet Union is putting forward a proposal to implement a set of concrete measures which would assist to unite the efforts of the states in the peaceful exploration of space and the use of space technology for the good of all peoples. It is proposed, in particular, to carry out in the near future, a special international conference dedicated to these questions. Already today these proposals have attracted great attention and many positive comments all over the world. Such a response comes not only from specialists, scientists who could immediately estimate the full significance of the Soviet idea; they are also supported by the broad public. This is clear. The matter of the conquest of the near-earth space is moving out of the field of experiments and preliminary research into the plane of practical actions. Next year, for example, is a year of joint actions by a whole range of countries, in the first ranks of which is our country, aimed at studying the approaching Halley's Comet.

[Andrianov] I will add that in the proposals of the Soviet Union, mentioned by you, it is noted that already today mankind is getting the power to implement such a long-term objective as the industrialization of near-earth space, in the sense of merging space complexes for different purposes with the earth-bound economy of the states, the creation of orbital factories and plants for the production of new materials and industrial output. In connection with this, Peter Marsh, the author of the book "Business in Space," recently published in Britain, writes: Science and industry are preparing now to go outside the boundaries of the earth's atmosphere. Goods manufactured in space factories will, he thinks, be delivered to people as early as the nineties. Among them will be very valuable medicinal preparations. In this field, Marsh writes, the Soviet Union is ahead of everyone.

[Nekrasov] Breath-taking possibilities, so to say, really are being opened up. But, and this is a very big but, to implement them for the welfare of mankind it is necessary to prevent the militarization of space, to which so many efforts are now being dedicated on the other side of Atlantic. Because of this the Soviet Union is proposing that the UN General Assembly should again, with all determination, appeal to all states, especially those which have a large potential in the space field, to immediately reach an agreement about effective measures aimed at the prevention of a space arms race. This is our position of principle. I think it is important to note that it is not at all new, that it has not been prompted by some latest events, that does not follow from considerations, connected for example with Washington's plans for "star wars."

Already in 1958, soon after the first artificial earth satellite was launched by the Soviet Union, Moscow, as is known, put forward to the UN a proposal envisaging the prohibition of the use of space for military purposes.

[Volskiy] It is interesting, Vadim Nikolayevich, how the new proposals of the Soviet Union concerning cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space were regarded in official Washington circles, and how, in principle, the possibilities of such cooperation are being looked upon over there.

[Nekrasov] Well, when talking generally about the Soviet-American cooperation in the matter of space exploration, I would like to remind you that in its time, the Reagan administration did not want to renew the bilateral agreement with us on this question, the term of which expired 3 years ago. Talking concretely about the present proposals, the deputy press secretary of the White House, Speakes, answering journalists' questions, declared: If the Soviet Union has serious proposals connected with nonmilitarization of space, then it must put them forward during the talks, started with the agreement of both sides, in Geneva. As you understand yourself, this is not an answer but an attempt to avoid giving an answer, or at least to avoid serious discussion. Of course, it is possible to discuss the questions of major importance raised by the Soviet Union not only at the General Assembly, but also in the other places. The main thing, however, is not this: The main thing is the principled approach, and here everything looks different with the Americans.

U.S. Antisatellite Test

[Volskiy] You evidently mean President Reagan's recent message to Congress, in which he announced the forthcoming test launching of an antisatellite system; as the President called it, a non-nuclear miniature antisatellite system.

[Nekrasov] Quite right. Well, let's leave the words "miniature system" to the conscience of those who have used them. What are we in fact dealing with in concrete terms? It's fairly clear from the reports which have appeared in the U.S. press. It is an extremely ingenious mechanism which, in their own jargon, the American military have nicknamed the "flying can." It is a small vehicle, flying in space -- indeed, up to half a meter in length -- which has to be launched from a high-altitude F-15 fighter. This projectile is equipped with infra-red telescopes which, by scanning space, have to detect a source of heat radiation, that is to say, a satellite. Then the computer on board this projectile has to calculate the distance to the satellite, its relative speed of movement, and switch on the maneuvering rocket motors which are on the projectile; this will direct the projectile to the target so that it can blow itself up along with it. As you see, so much equipment has been tacked on to the so-called miniature system that the nickname of the flying can is justified -- a thoroughly poisonous and lethal can.

But that is the technical side of the matter, so to say. As far as the military-political side is concerned, I would like to recall the fact that the Soviet Union declared a unilateral moratorium on putting antisatellite devices into orbit 2 years ago, that is to say in 1983, and it did so in its desire to prevent a dangerous development of the situation. As we now see this act of good will on our part, this very important step intended to forestall a race in space weapons, did not meet with understanding on that side of the ocean.

In Washington they are now resorting to the most varied attempts to conceal the significance of this militant new step.

For example, they are stating that the forthcoming tests will not, allegedly, represent an irreversible step. The argument -- a truly ridiculous one -- that the tests will supposedly encourage success at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva, has been set in motion. In actual fact things are precisely the other way around. By its actions Washington is putting a new spoke, a new huge truncheon, I would say, into the wheels of the Geneva talks.

[Andrianov] William Plante, a correspondent of the American CBS television company, said a few days ago while commenting on Washington's decision, that the question arises: Why are these tests being held at this particular time, when talks are taking place in Geneva and when both sides are preparing to hold a summit meeting? The correspondent does not answer his own question, but the answer is nevertheless clear: It is a question of the U.S. military's intention to press on regardless, despite whatever obstacles there may be of a foreign policy character.

[Nekrasov] A question similar to the one asked by Plante was put directly to a White House spokesman at a news conference. He was asked: Surely the administration can see that this irrepressible desire to acquire an antisatellite strike weapon, and to do so under conditions of a unilateral moratorium by the USSR that has been in operation for 2 years already, cannot be viewed other than as an attempt to obtain superiority over the Soviet Union? That this decision can lead only to the extension of the space weapons race? And what did the White House spokesman have to say? He tried in every way to avoid giving direct answers, though eventually he was obliged to state that Washington has no desire to conduct any talks with Moscow about the substance of space militarization issues.

[Volskiy] Eventually American Senator Kerry was more open than the White House spokesman. Using plain terms he described the decision on the tests -- and I quote -- as yet another step in the direction of extending the arms race into space.

[Nekrasov] What's more, it's a step which is of itself extremely dangerous.

South Africa, U.S. Racism

[Volskiy] Today we are talking about the general problems that disturb mankind, but they occur alongside local problems, private problems, it would appear, but which in themselves also exert great influence upon the general international situation. One example of this is provided by events in the Republic of South Africa. What pitiful methods have already been resorted to by Botha, the South African president, in his attempts to break the will of the Africans -- shooting at demonstrators, while at the same time attempting to still the wave of these demonstrations by making small concessions, cosmetic in character, which have left the apartheid system itself intact; playing off the Africans against the Indians and then arresting both. Thus far, however, it has all been of no avail: The Africans' struggle is becoming less spontaneous and more organized; one can feel that the objectives and the methods have been thought through.

For example, at the end of August a general strike by the miners was to have started. It was expected that 400,000 workers would take part. It is true that this has now been postponed for a week, but it was postponed because there are reports that the mines authorities have made concessions to the miners; this in itself is also a success of a kind. A boycott of shops belonging to whites in South Africa is being carried out, and this boycott has led to many of these shopowners going bankrupt. In general, the flight of capital from South Africa has begun.

The Afrikaners, the descendents of the white settlers, are leaving, and overall there is an atmosphere of extreme instability. Furthermore, white students, for example, are taking part in the antiracist struggle. In a number of cases some of them are even joining the African National Congress.

Of course, one must not be under any illusions: The racist regime still has some reserves, and not just military reserves. In spite of everything, the West is on their side, primarily the United States. And Western politicians censure, aloud, the terror of the apartheid regime precisely because they fear that this will speed up its complete collapse. And what would its complete collapse mean? In the first place, of course, it would mean a threat to the profits of the Western corporations which export large quantities of valuable minerals from South Africa. In the second place there would cease to be a realiable military bastion close to the important sea route around Africa, a route along which oil in particular is carried. And in the third place -- and this is perhaps the most important -- it provides impetus for the struggle of all peoples of developing countries against unequal rights, against global racism, which, I would say, penetrates the whole of imperialist policy.

[Andrianov] And this is what catches the attention: As the escalation of violence and crude disregard for human rights becomes ever more unbridled in its nature in the Republic of South Africa, Washington and Pretoria make a show of over-emphasizing their loyalty to their close relations as allies. This is done deliberately, in public, so to speak, in order to show the unity of their views on events taking place in South Africa. From Pretoria one hears statements that South Africa has no more reliable supporter in the Western world than President Reagan. For his part, the head of the White House describes the apartheid regime as a reliable ally of the United States. Moreover, the American President effectively supports the draconic measures to which South Africa's racist authorities resort. Addressing one of his news conferences, Reagan justified in every way the state of emergency introduced by the rulers of South Africa, asserting that it is allegedly a necessary measure to control the situation in that country. And can Washington really reproach Pretoria for its monstrous violence against the African population, while American racists behave in exactly the same way toward blacks in the United States?

[Nekrasov] Racism and racial discrimination continue to be the shame of present-day America. This we know, although it is known that more than 120 years have passed since slavery was formally abolished in the United States. During the past 5 years the white racists on the other side of the ocean have stepped up their activity. This is noted by American civil rights fighters. One of them, Roger Green, points out that during the years that the Reagan administration has been in power, racist terror has reached truly unprecedented levels in the country. Or take the following statement: The terrifying growth in violence against blacks and representatives of other national minorities has become a national manifestation. That was from a statement issued by the coalition of public organizations demanding that the criminal activity of the Ku Klux Klan and other reactionart groups should be banned.

[Andrianov] The American authorities are essentially cooperating with the frenzied proponents of the idea of the superiority of the white race, and those in the service of justice are favorably inclined toward the racist killers and terrorists who operate freely in the United States. This week, for example, an appeals court in the State of Alabama revoked the death sentence on Henry Hayes. On 20 March 1981, acting together with an accomplice, this member of a Ku Klux Klan racist gang perpetrated an act of violence of monstrous barbarity against Michael Donald, a 19-year-old black youth, in the town of Mobile. On that day Hayes and his friend, James Knowles, also a Ku Klux Klan member, decided, in their own words, to kill a black to demonstrate the strength of the Klan in Alabama.

Threatening him with weapons, they seized Donald late in the evening and took him off into the desert. There the racists, having thrown away all restraint, first subjected the youth to refined kinds of torture, and then Hayes cut Donald's throat with a knife. After nightfall they brought Donald's corpse back into the town and hung it from a tree for all to see. The authorities tried hard to hush up this bestial crime. It was only under pressure from an indignant public that the racist cutthroats were brought before the court. It sentenced Hayes to death and Knowles to life imprisonment. However, resorting to a procedural subterfuge, the Alabama Court of Appeals has now declared the judgement of the lower court to be invalid. This is a patent maneuver by the high priests of American justice, and it is not fortuitous that Ku Klux Klan supporters in Alabama reckon that the sentence on the racists will be mitigated or quashed altogether at a new court hearing.

[Nekrasov] Indeed, the American authorities themselves are not standing on ceremony in their treatment of the black population. Remember, for instance, what they perpetrated in Philadelphia a little over 3 months ago. At that time the police carried out a premeditated punitive action in the black district of the city. Members of a radical organization called "Move" were subjected to rough justice. Right from the outset the decision was made in cold blood to physically liquidate them, to judge by everything. For this purpose a powerful aerial bomb was dropped on the house they were occupying. A fire broke out, and as a result, at least 11 persons, including four children, were burned alive. The police took aim and fired at those who attempted to escape from the flame-enveloped house. An investigation into the circumstances of this tragedy is now being conducted by the district attorney. However, there is little likelihood of the possibility of its being objective in character: After all, the authorities will not pass a verdict of guilty on themselves.

[Andrianov] At the same time Washington's official representatives do not tire of lauding to the skies the much-vaunted American democracy. In one of his radio talks, President Reagan said literally the following, and I quote: In the course of its 4 and 1/2 years, the present administration has been taking energetic steps to guard and expand every American's entitlement to equal rights. We can be proud, the head of the White House proclaimed, of our record in the sphere of human rights. This open publicity, or, to be more accurate, self-publicity, has nothing in common with reality. What is more, it is contrary to facts that are common knowledge. Since the moment the Republican administration came into office in 1981, it started a broad offensive against the civil rights of blacks and other national minorities, rights they had gained in a harsh struggle. Surely it was the present master of the White House who to all intents and purposes dispersed the previous members of the Civil Rights Commission. Yes, it was indeed. The intention of many commission members to promote implementation of the civil rights legislation that Congress adopted in the sixties under the public pressure, was not to his liking. In place of those who had been dismissed, Reagan manned the commission with his fellow-thinkers, and they openly began sabotaging all efforts to combat racial discrimination.

All this was only the start of the Reagan administration's crusade against the civil rights of America's non-whites. Furthermore, U.S. white citizens too are having to experience for themselves official Washington's flouting of their elementary rights and liberties. American propaganda conceitedly, for instance, tells one of the freedom of speech that allegedly exists in the United States. However, not even the ghost of dissidence is tolerated there, and those who in the view of the authorities allow themselves to make seditious utterances face the threat of trouble. Quite recently Ernst Jube, a teacher, was expelled from the university in the town of Stoney Brook. He was guilty of referring to Zionism as a form of racism during the delivery of a lecture.

David Abraham, a young historian from Princeton University, was subjected to political persecution for revealing the role of German monopolies in Hitler's rise to power. Persecution descended upon Bertol Ullman, a former professor of Maryland University, who dared to criticize the aggressive policy of the Reagan administration, and when this scholar attempted to get at the truth, he was brushed aside by the U.S. Supreme Court, which is meant to guard the much-vaunted American liberties.

Activists of the anti-war movement are being hounded with particular pertinacity in present-day America. They are regarded as the main internal enemies of the Washington administration, inasmuch as they are attempting to hamper its escalation of the armaments race. A hail of repressions has been descending upon them. So-called trials and courtroom proceedings in the United States, in which the victims are peace supporters and campaigners against Washington's militarist policy, have been getting more frequent. It is quite clear that the Washington administration, which likes to have its say about human rights in other countries, and which presents itself as a supporter of rights and liberties, is itself cruelly stifling opposition in its own country, even though it is the interests of those people that the American authorities represent.

[Volskiy] Well, that is the background that shows why and what dictates the United States' support for the racist regime in South Africa, even at a time when the regime is ready on the verge of total bankruptcy.

[Nekrasov] Dmitriy Antonovich, the upsurge in the antiapartheid movement is already being carefully followed in other areas, in particular.

U.S.-Sponsored Unrest

[Volskiy interrupts] Well. Vadim Nikolayevich, you indeed touched upon Central America. [as heard] I should like to recall just one phrase that President Reagan let slip some time ago. Speaking about the Nicaraguan Sandinists, he expressed himself as follows. He said: I want them to ask for mercy. Well, that fairly succinctly shows why Central America has become yet another hotbed of tension. Washington wants to return it to a condition from which it has irrevocably emerged -- namely, a condition of total obedience to the United States. But when, as they say, the train has already left, an attempt to bring it back by force means risking a catastrophe, the conflagration of which would encompass the whole of Central America. This is why Washington has all the time been racking its brains over whether to undertake such a risk or whether somehow to attempt to act by other methods. Meanwhile, it is waging an undeclared war through the agency of local mercenaries. In Nicaragua it is through the agency of the contras, and in El Salvador through the local police force. These undeclared wars are being waged so that at any moment they can be turned into the prelude for an American invasion.

Well, of course, there is not such a direct threat everywhere, but it always begins with an action in which the United States is, to outward appearances, as it were, uninvolved. One could take an example of this from another area. I have in mind the assassination of the leader of the Akali Dal party in the Indian state of Punjab. The killers came from Pakistan. That has been established by the authorities. But, as you know, Pakistan is a close ally of the United States.

[Andrianov] The shots of terrorists in Punjab, explosions in Lebanon, mass killings of innocent people by the death squad thugs in El Salvador, air raids by the South African Air Force on neighboring African states, and very many other misdeeds are rooted in the soil that is being created by the policy and practice of international terrorism by the United States.

Scorning the elementary norms of international law and morality, Washington undertook its piratical action against tiny Grenada, and it has been grossly interfering in the internal affairs of El Salvador, helping its proteges to annihilate the people of that country. Nicaragua is being subjected to a real siege, just because its people wish to live free and independent. The United States declares the racist Pretoria regime to its historical ally, a regime which has been committing terrorist actions against neighboring countries. The U.S. Congress has, in essence, given its blessing to open support for the outlaw gangs in Angola. The Washington administration has been endeavoring to kindle more strongly the fire of its undeclared war against the Afghan people. Through the agency of its proteges, the United States is failing to allow numerous hotspots around the globe to be extinguished.

THE WASHINGTON POST reports that the White House is already nursing the idea of creating a special agency to support terrorist groups in various parts of the world, ranging from Indochina and southern Africa, to Central America. This means that, unlike its predecessors, the present administration not only considers it unnecessary to keep its intentions secret, but is indeed cynically boasting of them, presenting them as a struggle against international terrorism. This, as you know, is the label Washington attaches to those independent states and national liberation movements whose anti-imperialist struggle infuriates the White House. This indeed is why it is taking hold of its state terrorism stick. However, this will not help it to halt the advance of peoples along the path of freedom, independence, peace and progress.

Here, esteemed comrade listeners, we come to the end of our roundtable gathering. All the participants thank you for your attention. Till we meet again, all the best to you!

U.S. ACCUSATIONS OVER CHEMICAL DUST CONDEMNED

Reports 'Absurd'

LD231723 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 23 Aug 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Excerpts] Hello, comrades. In the last weeks and days the world public has welcomed the decision of the Soviet Union to unilaterally halt from 6 August any kind of nuclear explosions. You know about these responses and about the widespread support for our country's new peace initiative. These responses are coming through today as well. The teletypes of all agencies of the world are running them. Here is just one of the latest reports: A deputy of the Brazilian Parliament, (Mario Frota), is convinced that halting nuclear explosions by the Soviet Union is an important and practical measure aimed at attaining a relaxation of international tension.

But, unfortunately, the teletypes of Western agencies also carry other, deplorable reports. There is the most out and out ballyhoo about the use in the USSR of some kind of chemical substances with regard to personnel at U.S. establishments. An absurdity! Amazing nonsense! But the most amazing thing is that this canard was born not in any old yellow rag [zheltaya gazetenka] but in the State Department. You already know that the Soviet Embassy in Washington has resolutely rejected this fabrication.

The aim of the latest slanderous campaign is to cloud relations between our countries and to sow enmity in some people toward the Soviet Union, toward you and me.

The loud calls for peace and cooperation that resound from time to time in the White House grow stale after this.

Western Sources Cited

LD241749 Moscow TASS in English 1647 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Washington, August 24 TASS -- Official Washington is trying hard to whip up a fresh anti-Soviet campaign built on absurd claims fabricated by the U.S. State Department that the Soviet Union is allegedly using "chemicals to monitor the activities of the U.S. Embassy personnel." In trying to divert the U.S. mass media into a desired direction, spokesmen for the White House and the U.S. State Department every day make provocative statements about the notorious "chemicals." The AP agency says that a special briefing was held at the U.S. Embassy in the USSR. The embassy, the agency said, set such conditions for the granting of the State Department concoction to the U.S. press, that journalists refused to participate in that briefing.

In describing the reaction to the lie among the circles of Western diplomats in the USSR, the newspaper WASHINGTON POST points out the increasingly sceptical attitude to the State Department's claims about some "invisible powder." A correspondent of the London newspaper TIMES points out in his turn the growing tendency among the American citizens staying in Moscow not to believe Washington's claims about the use of chemicals to keep track of their movements.

To say nothing of experts, even non-experts were able to expose the crude concoction of the U.S. State Department.

FBI chemical expert John Hicks told the newspaper WASHINGTON POST that "to my knowledge there is no chemical substance that's put on a person to tell who he's in contact with."

"Marking powders, he said, are used by security firms to mark valuables," but he never heard about the existence of chemicals for monitoring activities.

Walter Rowe, chemist of George Washington University, even more frankly exposed the lies of the U.S. State Department and the White House. He compared the absurd fabrications of the State Department with the slanderous accusations against the USSR that it used a chemical weapon, the so-called "yellow rain" in Southeast Asia. These Washington lies are known to have been completely exposed by many scientists and competent experts from various countries who visited the areas, which had allegedly been a target of a "chemical attack." "After the 'yellow rain' business I do not have a bit of faith in the State Department," Rowe said.

Propaganda Ploy

LD231946 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] As we have already reported, the USSR Embassy in Washington has made a protest to the U.S. State Department about the absurd fabrications that some sort of chemical substances are being used against the staff of U.S. establishments in the Soviet Union. Here is a news commentary with political observer Vladimir Tsvetov at the microphone.

[Tsvetov] It is said that in the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency there is a department engaged in a study of detective stories. On the one hand, the philologists in civilian dress are trying to find out whether writers have smelled out operations by the U.S. intelligence service and whether they have revealed information about them in their spy novels. And on the other hand, they are trying to find in the detective story opuses examples that could possibly be borrowed.

The extreme poverty of ideas in the American detective story genre is self-evident. Judging by the fabrication that is revealed in the statement by the USSR Embassy, the U.S. special services did not find anything better in the second-rate spy stories for use in practice than the invention about the use of a chemical powder that is allegedly being poured over Americans in the Soviet Union so as to be able to track them more easily. In other words, roughly the same thing is being done as the women in the villages who mark their chickens with paint. One might laugh one's head off at the primitiveness of the CIA philologists and the stupidity of their chiefs who gain their nourishment from ideas picked up from reading detective stories, if it were not for the fact that concealed behind the fabrication is a foul design.

By rejecting Soviet peace initiatives out of hand, the U.S. Administration has discredited itself even in the eyes of its allies. After refusing to join the moratorium announced by the Soviet Union on all nuclear explosions, the Washington authorities have found themselves in such a well-enclosed defensive propaganda position that it is possible to get out of it, in the opinion of Washington, only by using extraordinary means. Just such a means, extraordinary in its absurdity and malicious intent, was the accusation that the Soviet Union uses chemical substances against Americans in our country. How can one believe the Soviet proposals for reducing the nuclear danger to mankind if the USSR is almost crop-spraying people? That is the thought that the U.S. special services are trying to instill in the minds of the world public.

However, that is not the only aim of certain Washington circles.

They have made use of the toxin of slander to poison Soviet-U.S. relations when the prospects of a dialogue have appeared in them. To the question of how one is to protect oneself from these awful chemicals, a State Department specialist in preventive medicine replied: You must wash your hands more often. I think that after reading the dirty fabrications by the U.S. special services, one should really wash one's hands carefully, preferably with carbolic.

'Dangerous Consequences' Noted

LD241203 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1043 GMT 24 Aug 85

["Washington's Poisonous "Soap Bubble" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 24 Aug (TASS) -- TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

The Washington administration is continuing its energetic efforts to fan the latest anti-Soviet campaign, based on the State Department's absurd claims about the use in the Soviet Union of some kind of "chemical substance to track employees of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow."

Since, as one would expect, not one American living in the Soviet Union has ever seen or smelt this powder, special instructions were given to American journalists at the U.S. Embassy in the USSR. As the ASSOCIATED PRESS reported, one diplomat there gave correspondents instructions as to what and how to write about this "magic powder," which allegedly enable the Soviet authorities to establish where an American representative had been, whom he had met, and what he had done.

At the same time, in New York, an ABC television newsreader stated: "The United States continues to insist that the Russians are using a potentially dangerous chemical substance to track Americans in the USSR."

It could of course be surmised that one of the originators and participants of this latest dirty anti-Soviet exercise decided, as the phrase goes, to "use his official position for personal gain," and, without pondering the serious consequences of the present campaign on the whole complex of Soviet-American relations, to obtain a pay increment..."for health hazards" with the help of conjectures about the "danger" of working in Moscow. After all, this was precisely one of the results of the ballyhoo over "microwave radiation" against the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, which went on for a number of years: staff salaries were increased 15 percent. Now, as was stated by Redman, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department, the administration "again intends closely to consider the question of raising the salaries of diplomats working in Moscow, at the request of the U.S. Association of Diplomatic Service Employees." It is hoped in Washington that the extra dollars will make the provocative fabrication of the American special services concerning "chemical dust" more convincing.

However, those who think seriously cannot fail to see the dangerous consequences of this latest fabrication for Soviet-American relations, and name the causes as much more serious than the desire to achieve a further raise in salary.

Thus, M. Binyon, the Washington correspondent of the English TIMES, in asking the question: "Why was it that the State Department chose to create the current anti-Soviet uproar only 3 months before the Soviet-American summit meeting," writes: "Many politicians see this step on the part of Washington as an integral part of American maneuvering to counter skillful Soviet initiatives that have thrown the United States on the defensive in the approach to the M.S. Gorbachev-R. Reagan meeting," particularly in connection with the introduction by the USSR of a unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions, and its actions concerning the nonmilitarization of space. M. Binyon points to "widespread criticism" which accompanies the administration's similar clumsy actions. "Even some Republican Party representatives express doubt about the wisdom of such an approach on the part of the United States within the framework of the run-up to the November summit," he states.

No less eloquent is the material dispatched to THE TIMES by its Moscow correspondent, R. Owen. Informing us that "U.S. citizens resident in Moscow refuse to believe Washington's allegations about the use of a chemical powder to keep track of their movements and contacts," he continues: "In the opinion of many Americans in Moscow, because the State Department has not produced concrete evidence of this mysterious powder or its "victims," the conclusion is being drawn that Moscow is probably right in evaluating the charges brought by the United States as an absurd invention by those who do not wish Soviet-American relations to follow the road of normalization."

IZVESTIYA ON CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION VISIT

PM221317 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Aug 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Guests From the United States"]

[Text] A U.S. delegation headed by G. Savage, member of the U.S. House of Representatives and a Democrat from Illinois, is visiting the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries [SSOD].

The delegation head has had a talk with USSR Supreme Soviet Deputy Z.M. Gruglova, chairman of the SSOD Presidium, during which questions of developing public ties between the USSR and the United States were broached.

Meetings have been held between members of the U.S. delegation and members of the USSR Supreme Soviet Foreign Affairs Commission, I.D. Laptev, chief editor of IZVESTIYA, and Academician G.A. Arbatov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences United States of America and Canada Institute.

The guests visited the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences All-Union Cardiology Center, where they were acquainted with achievements of Soviet medical science. Meetings have also been held with the leadership of organizations which ensure the functioning of public transport in the capital.

C. Savage visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and saw the city's sights. The U.S. delegation will also visit Tashkent, Bukhara, Samarkand, and Leningrad.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES PRC AMBASSADOR 23 AUG

LD231350 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1338 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, 23 Aug (TASS) -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of foreign affairs, today received Li Zewang, the PRC ambassador to the USSR, at the latter's request, and held a conversation with him.

An exchange of views took place on questions relating to Soviet-Chinese relations and some international problems.

Both sides expressed a mutual interest in the continuation of contacts on different levels with the aim of further normalizing relations between the USSR and PRC. The conversation took place in a business-like and frank [otkrovennyy] atmosphere.

XINHUA NOTES USSR'S ROLE IN JAPANESE WAR

LD242236 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1855 GMT 24 Aug 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The XINHUA agency reports that the Political Academy of the Navy of China has prepared an article for a symposium being held in Beijing devoted to the 40th anniversary of the victory over the Japanese aggressors. The article notes that the most prominent place among the countries that rendered support and aid to China during the anti-Japanese war was occupied by the first socialist state in the world, the Soviet Union.

WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY FOR SOVIET DEAD IN BEIJING

LD241809 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0930 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Beijing, 24 Aug (TASS) -- The XINHUA agency reports that on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Dairen, wreaths were laid at the foot of the monument to fallen heroes of the Soviet Army in the town center. The wreaths were from the Dairen city committee of the CPC, the people's government of the city, and the Dairen branch of the Chinese-Soviet Friendship Society. Wreaths were also laid on memorials to fallen heroes of the Soviet Army in Liushun (Port Arthur) region and in the Tsingchwan district.

BEIJING RADIO RESUMES RUSSIAN LANGUAGE LESSONS

OW230821 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 22 Aug 85

[Text] According to an announcement in Beijing, on 19 August the Beijing Radio station resumed its broadcast of Russian language lessons, suspended in 1966, to residents of Beijing Municipality. The report said that it was the first of all central and local radios to resume broadcasts of Russian language lessons.

The responsible person at the radio station said: The Soviet Union is China's largest neighboring country, and Russian is one of the working languages of the United Nations. There is no reason why we should not study the Russian language.

JAPANESE-U.S. SDI AGREEMENT PLANNED FOR FALL

LD251237 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Tokyo, August 25 TASS -- The Nakasone government intends to sign an official agreement with Washington on Japan's joining the American "star wars" programme.

As is reported by the newspaper TOKYO SHIMBUN today, the decision will be announced in October during the visit to Japan of Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger. That agreement will pave the way to broadscale deliveries to the Pentagon of newest Japanese technology to develop space armaments. Earlier Prime Minister Nakasone actually gave permission to private companies of the country to join the research work in the United States within the framework of the "star wars" programme. They are already involved in creating powerful combat lasers with which Washington links its plans of militarisation of the near-earth space.

JOINT MEETING DISCUSSES FAR EAST COOPERATION

LD232105 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] A Soviet-Japanese symposium devoted to issues involved in the development of economic and scientific cooperation between the Soviet Far East and Japan opened in Khabarovsk today. Taking part in the symposium are staff from a number of institutes of the Far East Scientific Center of the USSR Academy of Sciences and scientists from Japanese universities. The participants in the symposium will visit industrial enterprises and scientific and cultural establishments in the city on the Amur.

ROK OPPOSITION LEADER PLACED UNDER HOUSE ARREST

LD250702 Moscow TASS in English 0626 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Tokyo, August 25 TASS -- South Korea's secret police has again put under strict house arrest one of the opposition leaders, clergyman Mun Ik-hwan and three other leaders of illegal organisations of fighters against the pro-American dictatorship. As is reported by the [name indistinct], they have been charged with the attempt to arrange a mourning ceremony on common graves of victims of the people's uprising in Kwangju in 1980.

According to official data alone, more than 500 people, accused of "Communist propaganda" and "organizing disorders", have been arrested in South Korea in the past few months.

BRIEFS

MONGOLIAN CONSULATE IN KIEV -- On 6 August Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and second secretary, received Banzragch, consul general of the Mongolian People's Republic in Kiev, in connection with the latter's forthcoming departure from home. Merkulov, department chief in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, participated in a conversation that was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1715 GMT 16 Aug 85 AY]

PAKISTANI MINISTER CONFERS WITH KORNIYENKO

LD251644 Kuwait KUNA in English 1553 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, Aug 25 (KUNA) -- Pakistan's Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan Sunday conferred here with First Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR, Georgiy Korniyenko on the situation in Afghanistan.

The Pakistani official made a brief stopover in Moscow en route to Geneva for the fifth round of indirect talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, scheduled to open Tuesday in the Swiss capital under U.N. sponsorship.

Before leaving Islamabad yesterday, Khan predicted that the upcoming round would be "difficult" and said that making headway would mostly depend on the seriousness of the other side.

The talks will be chaired by Diego Cordovez, special envoy of the U.N. secretary general on Afghanistan.

Khan added that the "very complex and chronic" Afghan question needed a political rather than a military settlement.

The official TASS news agency, meanwhile, gave no details on the meeting between the Pakistani official and the first Soviet deputy foreign minister today.

AFGHAN PROPOSALS AIMED AT PEACE FOR REGION

GF251012 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1600 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Unattributed commentary: "An Important and Timely Initiative by Democratic Afghanistan"]

[Excerpts] It has now been 4 years since 24 August 1981, when the DRA made peaceful proposals to solve Afghan problems. At that time Babrak Karmal stressed the proposals were an indication of the will of the Afghan people for peace, calm, and security in the region and the entire world. The related questions were: need for an agreement in principal between Afghanistan and Pakistan and between Afghanistan and Iran on the basis of mutual respect for each other, good-neighborliness, and non-interference in the domestic affairs of each other. The DRA proposed to Iran and Pakistan that they should prevent armed and other hostile activities in their territory against agreement cosignatories.

It was also said that satisfactory international guarantees on the agreements should be a part of the political solution to the problem. Four rounds of talks have been held since 1982 under the auspices of the personal representative of the UN secretary general. After the conclusion of the fourth round of talks held in mid-1984, Cordovez said that the groundwork was prepared for future talks on finding a political solution to the problems.

The imperialist countries, the foremost of which is the United States, do all they can so that the undeclared war against Afghanistan, which they started, does not end. Imperialists, in their efforts to prevent the successful fulfillment of duties imposed on the DRA by the April revolution and to weaken the political-military system in the region, encourage Pakistan and Iran to carry out provocative policies and sabotage against the DRA and its people. For this reason, those people have set up more than 120 camps in Pakistan, and the so-called counterrevolutionaries are given special training there. More than 20 camps in Iran have become an active center for disgraceful brigandage activities against Afghanistan.

The fifth round of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan will be held in Geneva on 27 August. Iranian politicians [word indistinct] because they do not wish to [word indistinct] with Afghanistan and show a realistic and constructive attitude, like this country, toward the solution of regional issues. Such an attitude is at odds with the aspirations of the Iranian people. The realization of peaceful measures repeatedly proposed by Afghanistan are doubtless in the interests of all countries in the region, including Iran. This is because they are aimed at stabilizing (?regional issues).

SIKH LEADER'S KILLING PLANNED, FINANCED ABROAD

PM231700 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Aug 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "The Assassination Was Planned Abroad"]

[Text] Delhi, 22 Aug -- The investigation into the assassination of H.S. Longowal, eminent Indian politician and president of the Akali Dal Sikh party, indicates that the trial of the crime leads abroad. It has emerged that the Sikh terrorists Malvinder Singh and Gian Singh, captured at the scene of the crime, crossed the Indian-Pakistani border for the express purpose of organizing the assassination. The captured criminals have admitted that they infiltrated into India from Pakistan together with another six terrorists, the newspaper FREE PRESS JOURNAL reports, citing informed sources.

According to reports in the TIMES OF INDIA, a secret conference of the ringleaders of extremist groupings advocating Punjab's secession from India and the establishment of a puppet "state of Khalistan" was held in London immediately following the signing of an agreement on the normalization of the situation in Punjab by Indian Prime Minister R. Gandhi and Akali Dal President H.S. Longowal. This conference made the decision to exterminate H.S. Longowal. Money for the hired assassins was sent to Pakistan.

KOSHOYEV-LED DELEGATION MEETS GANDHI IN DELHI

LD221935 Moscow TASS in English 1902 GMT 22 Aug 85

[Text] New Delhi, August 22 TASS -- The Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had a meeting here today with a Soviet public delegation led by Temirbek Koshoyev, vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The delegation are taking part in the month-long Indian-Soviet friendship festival which is under way in India to mark the 14th anniversary of the signing of the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India and the 38th anniversary of independence of the Republic.

In the course of the talks which was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, the head of the delegation conveyed to Rajiv Gandhi the best of wishes from the Soviet leadership.

The prime minister of India on his part asked to convey very warm wishes to the Soviet leaders. He said that his recent visit to the USSR and the negotiations in Moscow were an important landmark in further development of Indian-Soviet relations. The results of the visit are highly appreciated in India, he said.

Speaking of foreign policy problems, Rajiv Gandhi noted that India, as the chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, was now preparing for a conference of foreign ministers of non-aligned countries to be held in Luanda (Angola). In the present-day complicated international situation the struggle for peace, for relaxation of international tension remains the most topical task. The relations between India and the Soviet Union, which are a factor of peace and stability, according with that aim, said the head of the Indian Government.

FRG POLITICIANS CONDEMN BINARY WEAPONS STORAGE

LD231219 Moscow TASS in English 1114 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Bonn, August 23 TASS -- The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) should say "no" to the deployment of new U.S. binary chemical weapons in the country, stated Egon Bahr, member of the presidium of the board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD). The opinion of the Social Democrats is that, in the interests of bilateral relations with the United States, it is essential to tell Washington in time that the government of the FRG will not approve plans to site binary weapons in the country. This is particularly important, since the FRG is the only West European country where deadly U.S. chemical bombs and shells are already kept.

Klaus Boelling, former official spokesman of the FRG's Government, has criticized Bonn's statement about the need to consult NATO partners on this matter before deciding whether binary weapons should be or should not be sited in the country's territory. That statement, he pointed out, is simply a deceptive stratagem because under the provisions of the 1954 treaty the U.S. Administration may bring new chemical weapons to the FRG's territory even without consent of the present CDU-FDP government.

Spokesmen of the Greens Party group in the West German Bundestag (Parliament) have demanded that the government renounce the deployment of new U.S. chemical weapons in the country's territory. The conclusion of a treaty on establishing in Europe a zone free from chemical weapons may become the best solution to the question, they point out.

The Federal Association of Fighters against Storing Toxic Agents in the Federal Republic has demanded immediate and complete removal of the entire amount of U.S. chemical weapons sited in the FRG. An appeal issued by the association and signed by more than 10,000 West German citizens urges the Government of the FRG immediately to state its disagreement with the Washington administration's intention to deploy newest chemical weapons in the FRG's territory.

PUBLIC FIGURES URGE UK NUCLEAR MORITORIUM

PM251325 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Aug 85 Morning Edition p 1

[V. Matveyev "Rejoinder": "Unanswered Letter"]

[Text] We do not know what rules exist at the editorial office of London's THE TIMES regarding the questions addressed to it by its readers. This time, however, the question, and it is one of considerable importance, is posed not by one reader but by several, and prominent politicians and public figures at that. They are David Ennals, chairman of the British UN Association; Joan Ruddock, chairperson of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament; Jonathan Porritt, director of the Friends of the Earth Organization, Colin Hines, director of another organization in defense of the environment, Greenpeace; Jan Martin, deputy general secretary of the British National Peace Council; and David Lowry on behalf of the Information Center for the Prevention of the Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

In a letter to the newspaper published 10 August they express disappointment that the newspaper found the USSR initiative announcing the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions effective 6 August inadequate.

"Such a moratorium," the writers point out, "is one of the disarmament measures most frequently demanded by the non-nuclear weapons states."

The letter contains an appeal to the U.S. and British Governments to respond positively to the Soviet initiative. "We call upon Mrs Thatcher," the writers state, "to declare a moratorium on British nuclear testing and persuade President Reagan to do the same."

Did THE TIMES editorial office heed the desire expressed in the letter for its readers to be informed in more detail about the Soviet initiative? Insofar as one can judge from subsequent issues of THE TIMES, the newspaper has done nothing of the sort. The important questions posed in the letter have gone unanswered.

The very same can also be said about the "reaction" of official London circles. They ignored the appeal, yet this is not just the voice of a few, albeit eminent British figures. The letter to THE TIMES reflects the feelings and sentiments of wide sections of the public, and not only in Britain. It is impossible to avoid the questions posed in the letter.

PRAVDA NOTES EUROPEAN CONCERN AT NATO MANEUVERS

LD240958 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2145 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, 24 Aug TASS -- The current series of "Autumn Forge" NATO maneuvers is the 11th since 1975. Each time, these war games cause the European countries great material damage and result in human fatalities, PRAVDA says.

This fall, another set of NATO exercises, naval maneuvers codenamed "Ocean Safari 85", runs almost concurrently with "Autumn Forge." As was stated by U.S. Admiral W. McDonald, supreme commander in chief of the Joint NATO Armed Forces in the Atlantic, 160 warships from 10 NATO countries, including 28 ships of the U.S. Navy, will be participating.

The forthcoming NATO "displays of muscle," and it is difficult to describe them as anything else, are justifiably causing serious alarm among the European public, the paper stresses. Their provocative nature is obvious if only because the "Autumn Forge" exercises are being held in the immediate vicinity of the borders of the countries of the socialist community. Such actions by the North Atlantic bloc run directly counter to the desire of the European peoples for peace and security. They do nothing to promote the strengthening of a climate of trust in Europe and throughout the world, particularly against the background of the success of the recent Helsinki meeting devoted to the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

START OF NATO AIR FORCE MANEUVERS REPORTED

LD241226 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] The latest NATO maneuvers, codenamed Blue Moon, began today in Denmark's airspace. Aircrafts of the U.S., British, Netherlands, and Danish Air Forces are taking part. Interaction between the Air Forces and headquarters of NATO Armed Forces in the Baltic Straits Zone is being practiced in the course of this militarist action.

COMMENTS ON GEN ABRAHAMSON'S VISIT TO ITALY

LD252127 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Our correspondent Yuriy Vybornov reports from Rome:

The local press reports that a highly-placed representative of the Pentagon, General Abrahamson, who is in charge of developing the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, has arrived in the Italian capital. He is the main figure executing the plan for militarizing space. The general's journey follows immediately after a statement by the White House on the forthcoming test of a new type of space weapon, anti-satellite missiles.

Apart from meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Defense, he will hold talks with the leaders of a number of industrial corporations specializing in the area of space technology. It is not difficult to guess what will be discussed. But something else is thus far less clear. Will the visitor succeed in attracting Italy to his side and involve it in the "star wars" program? Officially, the country's leadership takes a reserved position. It is true that they have made statements about a certain interest in the United States' plans, but they have still not gone any further than this vague formula. It should not be forgotten, however, that Washington has been granted support from several conservative pro-U.S. inclined politicians here, and also from some industrial and financial circles. Moreover, several concerned enterprises have expressed their readiness to begin, even today, developing the new technology. It is with their help that the Pentagon is trying to tear Italy out of the camp of the hesitators, and force it to yoke itself to the same space harness as the Pentagon.

FRANCE TO CONTINUE MURUROA NUCLEAR TESTS

PM231606 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Aug 85 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Despite Protests"]

[Text] Paris, 17 Aug -- France has stated that it will continue nuclear tests in the Pacific. This is stated in a Defense Ministry communique issued here today.

In this regard, the newspaper LIBERATION observes that the date for the next tests may coincide with the arrival at Mururoa Atoll of ships belonging to Greenpeace, the international environmental protection organization. This organization is resolutely opposed to French nuclear tests in the Pacific.

The evangelical church of Polynesia has also sharply protested against French nuclear tests in Polynesia and other regions of the world.

LEFT-WING ALLIANCE FORMED IN PORTUGAL

LD232118 Moscow TASS in English 2028 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Lisbon, August 23 TASS -- A coalition of left-wing forces, the Alliance for People's Unity, which unites the Portuguese Communist Party, the Portuguese Democratic Movement, the Green Party and independents, today published its platform in the runup to early parliamentary elections scheduled for October 6.

The programme sets forth measures suggested by the alliance with a view to overcoming the economic crisis and resolving acute social problems experienced by the country.

In the field of foreign policy, the election platform envisages cancellation of the plan to build on Portuguese territory an American radar station to track man-made objects in outer space, prohibition of the deployment, transit and storing of nuclear weapons. It also calls for a review of relations with the United States in the military sphere.

FRG, USSR REPRESENTATIVES DISCUSS MOSCOW TREATY

DW230934 [Editorial Report] Cologne Westdeutscher Rundfunk Television Network in German at 1915 GMT on 19 August 1985 carries from the terrace of Moscow's Rossiya Hotel a recorded 90-minute roundtable discussion on the anniversary of the Moscow treaty moderated by ARD Moscow correspondent Lutz Lehmann and Soviet Radio Peace and Progress commentator Sergey Klementyev. Participants in the discussion of the political, economic, and cultural developments between the Soviet Union and the FRG, are, CDU Bundestag Deputy Dietmar Kasny; SPD Bundestag Deputy Horst Ehmke; Lev Bezymenskiy, historian and writer for NEUE ZEIT; Moscow University Professor Jan Vogeler; and Egbert Jahn of the Hesse Foundation for Research on Peace and Conflicts.

During the discussion of a potential peace treaty, Lev Bezymenskiy argues against such a treaty. He asks: "Between whom should it be concluded, anyway?" He says, "we are past that stage now. We have solved the problems in different ways, through the Moscow treaty, through the Warsaw treaty, through the Helsinki Act. There is no sense in debating again that which has already been debated in the seventies."

Lehmann reminds the Soviet historian of the letter on German unity, an appendix to the treaty, whereupon Bezymenskiy declares: "The letter on German unity is your affair. What you call a letter is a resolution, which is not a part of the treaty. You adopted it; we did not sign it; it is not a component part."

Jahn counters: "What is happening now is exactly what I intended to warn of, namely, an attempt is being made to interpret the treaty as Soviet approval of German unity, and another to rule out German unity. Neither aspect is contained in the treaty. The treaty keeps the border open inasmuch as it states that it is not ruled out that a peaceful change in borders may take place." Bundestag Deputy Kasny says: "I cannot accept your version that the letter on German unity was a sort of game played by the Germans on the side. The letter on German unity was part of the ratification procedure. Even Mr Falin helped phrase it so that it would be accepted."

In response to Lehmann's question whether the FRG might be playing the role of honest broker between the two military blocks, Horst Ehmke says: "There is no use believing that a have-not state could be a mediator between the great nuclear powers. That would be overrating the FRG's role. But Western Europe, which carries more weight, could make it clear on its own that we in Europe cannot hope to gain anything by the space weapons program. As far as I am concerned, carrying weapons into space is tantamount to abandoning hope that arms control and disarmament will ever materialize. What we are facing here is a fatally wrong decision, and I hope that the West Europeans will do everything in their own interest to prevent space armament by both the United States and the Soviet Union. Should it take place, then arms control, which is lagging miles behind armament anyway, will never manage to banish the dangers."

Egbert Jahn fails to see why the great powers need any mediators, and says: "What matters is not questions concerning mediators but the need for the smaller countries of Western Europe, including the FRG, and the smaller countries of Eastern Europe to make their own interests prevail within their respective alliances and exert influence on the great world powers. The United States and the Soviet Union do not need any mediators between them; what matters is the relationship within the two alliances."

Lev Bezymenskiy, finally, sees the role of the Federal Republic thusly: "The Federal Republic is affiliated with a bloc. The point at issue is not whether the Federal Republic dissociates itself from that bloc and plays that role of good broker. That is past history. But it can play that role in the spirit of the Moscow treaty, in the spirit of security, because cooperation also works in the political field, and not just in the cultural and economic spheres. We see some fields in which the Federal Republic can indeed strengthen security in Europe. It did not, unfortunately, do that in the case of the missile deployment. Yet, there are ample possibilities left even now for the Federal Republic to play a role, for instance, in divorcing Europe from chemical weapons, and in the creation of nuclear-free zones in Europe." In the debate on SDI it could do so by "not joining that dangerous game, because if SDI materializes, all efforts will be in vain."

TURKISH MINISTER'S 20-23 AUG VISIT REPORTED

LD242039 Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1730 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Excerpt] A Turkish delegation led by Ahmet Kurtcebe Alptemocin, Turkish chairman of the Soviet-Turkish Intergovernmental Joint Commission and Turkish minister of finance and customs, paid a working visit to the Soviet Union 20-23 August. During the delegation's visit to Moscow there were talks at the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and the Foreign Trade Ministry. The state of and prospects for Soviet-Turkish trade and economic relations were discussed.

The long-term economic, trade, and scientific-technical cooperation program signed during Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Tikhonov's official visit to Ankara last December and questions of the implementation of the 1986-1990 trade agreement were discussed in great attention. Fulfillment of the 1985 trade protocol between the two countries was also discussed. In addition, possibilities of cooperation in the construction of a pipeline in Turkey to transport Soviet natural gas was another subject of discussion. It has been stated in the protocol that was signed that it would be appropriate to carry out the effective cooperation for the implementation of the project on the basis of the technical assistance of Soviet organizations and with the assistance of Soviet consultants. Services may be given during the purchases of equipment by BOTAS [acronym for the Turkish pipeline corporation] for the construction of the pipeline and for above ground installations, as well as in connection with technical matters for the construction, installation, testing, commissioning, and control of its operation.

SAUDI PRINCE FAYSAL IBN FAHD ARRIVES 22 AUG

GF231207 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0900 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Aug (SPA) -- His Royal Highness Prince Faysal ibn Fahd ibn 'Abd al'Aziz, president of the Youth Welfare Organization, arrived in Moscow last night to attend the World Youth Football finals, which will begin tomorrow.

He was received upon arrival by a number of Soviet officials and the Kuwaiti ambassador to the USSR 'Adil Najm al-Din al-Jarrah.

Meets Korniyenko

LD241645 Kuwait KUNA in English 1552 GMT 24 Aug 85

[By Khalid al-Tarrah]

[Text] Moscow, Aug 24 (KUNA) -- Head of the Saudi Higher Council for Youth and Sports, Prince Faysal ibn Fahd conferred here last night with the deputy Soviet foreign minister, Georgiy Korniyenko.

No immediate details were, however, available on subjects discussed at the two-hour meeting, held in the presence of head of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Vladimir Polyakov and the Kuwaiti ambassador here, 'Adil Najm ad-Din al-Jarrah.

The Saudi prince arrived here [word indistinct] Thursday heading an 18-member Saudi sports delegation for the [word indistinct] matches of the world football junior championships, opening today in the Georgian capital of Tiblisi.

Following the Faysal-Korniyenko encounter, the Kuwaiti envoy hosted a dinner in honour of the Saudi guest, whose country (?have) no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

The banquet was attended by Deputy Foreign Minister (?Korniyenko) department chief Polyakov, the Soviet ambassador to Kuwait Pogos Akopov, and deputy chairman of the Soviet State Commission Youth and Sport.

Kuwait is the only member state of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council, including as well Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, Gatar and Oman, maintaining diplomatic representation with Moscow.

Yesterday, Prince Faysal was guest at an official luncheon given in his honour by (?the deputy) chairman of the Soviet State Commission for Sports, during which means for promotion of supportive cooperation between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union were discussed.

TASS Interview Reported

GF241832 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1805 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Aug (SPA) -- TASS has conducted an interview with His Highness Prince Faysal ibn Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, chairman of the Youth Welfare Organization, who is currently visiting Moscow to attend the World Youth Soccer Cup Championship being held there.

The interview focussed on the impressions of his highness on his visit to Moscow and his assessment of Soviet sports. His royal highness affirmed that sports remain the best means of rapprochement between peoples.

'SHORTSIGHTED' ISRAELI POLICY HINDERS SETTLEMENT

LD251901 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 25 Aug 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] May I remind you, comrades, that when the 100,000-strong Israeli army invaded Lebanon, one of the main tasks was to draw Lebanon into the Camp David process and to force it to sign a peace treaty with Israel. Tel Aviv was unable to carry out this task, and at that stage the attention of both the Americans and the Israelis began to turn more and more often to Jordan, in order to try to persuade the Jordanian authorities to enter into talks with Israel. It was partly in an attempt to solve this task that Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Richard Murphy recently travelled to the Middle East.

The United States' current policy, of course, takes account of and encourages the de facto schism in the PLO. This organization is in a difficult position. After military detachments of Palestinians and the leaders of the Palestinian movement were forced to leave Beirut in 1982, where they had put up resistance for 83 days, some of the Palestinian leaders became pessimistic. They lost faith as it were, in the possibility of setting up an independent Palestinian state. Such were the general preconditions for the agreement between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn of Jordan, that was signed on 11 February this year. The agreement, in effect, removes the issue of a self-governing, independent Palestinian state. The agreement does not provide for the independent, equitable participation of the PLO in a Middle East settlement. The train of thought of the authors of this agreement seems to have been as follows: If we gave way on these points, then this will allow the United States to put pressure on Israel and force it to leave the West Bank. The West Bank would go to Jordan, and Jordan would be turned into a confederation of the Palestinian and Jordanian states. This scheme is fairly complicated and contradictory, but that is not even the point. The point is that it is essentially illusory. The United States will not put pressure on Israel. It's true that Israel's departure from most of the occupied territories is part of the official U.S. program, but I repeat, Washington will not raise a finger to force its ally to leave the occupied lands.

Receiving Murphy in Amman, they insisted on his meeting a so-called joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. To ease the position of the Americans, who insist on direct talks between the Arabs and Israel, the Jordanian foreign minister stated: We must differentiate between the final negotiations, which we will hold with Israel, and the preparations for such talks by means of a dialogue between the United States and the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. In general, the Americans were prepared for this meeting: from their point of view, such a meeting makes sense because it will allow them to soften up the Palestinian position even more and to increase the disorder, wavering, and disagreements among the Arabs.

However, Tel Aviv vetoed this meeting between Murphy and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation because in Israeli's opinion, such a meeting would mean indirect recognition of the PLO by the United States. And this is very characteristic. It shows, in particular, the limits to the independence of American policy, and for this reason expectations of U.S. help in solving the Palestinian problem are nothing more, as I have said, than an illusion.

The contradictions and struggle in the PLO, and the increase in disagreements in the Arab world, naturally make Israel's position easier. They create conditions for all sorts of political maneuvers over the Palestinian problem. The Middle East crisis has been going on for almost 4 decades, and these years have shown that there is no military solution -- it does not exist. The only way out of the crisis is a political settlement. And the main obstacle to such a settlement is the anti-Arab, adventurist, shortsighted policy of Israel. By all accounts, there are no social forces or political leaders in Israel who could evaluate the situation realistica ly and change the country's policy. They want to ensure security not by normal relations with their neighbors but by accumulating arms. Israel spends about one-third of its GNP on military requirements: hence the huge budget deficit. Its external debt has grown to $24 billion. Inflation last year was 445 percent. It is impossible to imagine all that, and the end is not in sight -- nor are real prospects for a Middle East settlement in sight for the foreseeable future.

COMMENTARY VIEWS 'DESPOTIC' REGIME IN IRAN

LD251803 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 25 Aug 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] It seems to me that as far as the Iranian leaders are concerned, the continuation of the war is a kind of lightning conductor that allows one to relieve the growing discontent. And there are many reasons for discontent. The anti-shah, truly popular mass revolution has turned out to be, if one can use the phrase, a barren flower both socially and politically. The shah's overthrow failed to lead to an improvement, if only slight, in the conditions of life for the Iranian working people.

The theocratic and despotic regime set up by the Shi'ite clergy is hardly inferior to the shah's regime as far as violence, repressions, and suppression of elementary liberties are concerned. Ali Khavari, first secretary of Iran's People's Party recently wrote: Already quite a number of reports have leaked from prisons where our comrades are languishing, about the horrors perpetrated there by the butchers. One can say with full justification that the Islamic republic's torturers have fully mastered the rich experience of the medieval inquisitors, gestapo monsters, U.S. sadists from Vietnam, and Israeli occupants on the seized Arab lands.

Iran's leaders strive, so to speak, to underpin their anti-human practices with a theological base. For instance, in a conversation with foreign guests -- incidentally, Afghan bandits were among them -- Khomeyni stated: The Koran says treat Muslims as brothers, treat in this way all those who believe in God. As for those who are not among them, it is said: beat them, kill them, incarcerate them. And, well, they beat them, kill them, and incarcerate them. Addressing the UN Human Rights Committee, the Iranian delegate Raja'i set out Iran's position in this way: We believe that if sentences of death and corporal punishment are carried out in accordance with Islam, they cannot be regarded as torture. So that's how it is.

Muslim fanaticism strangled the revolution. Any protests, even a hint of protest, is nipped in the bud, is suppressed by intimidation and terror. What is going on in the country is beginning to alarm a certain proportion of the clergy, too. The French LE MONDE reports that the Association of Theologian Lecturers of Qom, and this organization is rather influential in Iran, has sent the imam a letter.

The letter states: The regime no longer enjoys its previous authority among the population. And if a solution to serious problems is not found in the nearest future, the situation will turn out to be beyond control. And further: It will become necessary to ask God to shield us from the upheavals that may then take place. Ayatollah Azari Qomi and Ayatollah Meshkini are among the signatories of the letter.

The results of presidential elections in Iran were announced last week. Seyyed Khamene'i was reelected. Here is an interesting detail: It is reported that his sister fled Iran for Iraq where she describes the situation in Iran rather openly. All in all, the elections failed to change anything in the country: Iran's tragedy is continuing.

A few more words still, comrades, about other unresolved problems of the regions. The Kurds are waging an armed struggle to preserve their existence as a separate national entity. More than 100 clashes took place over the past year in Turkey's eastern provinces. Despite mass repressions, the resistance of Iranian Kurds has not been broken, either. More topical problems, or, perhaps more famous problems and events overshadows, as it were, the Kurdish problem. However, this question does exist.

BRIEFS

SOVIET-IRAQI FRIENDSHIP DAYS -- Soviet-Iraqi Friendship days were completed in Uzbekistan on 24 August. An Iraqi delegation headed by Irrigation Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud 'Abdallah participated in them. Participants of the friendship days were received by Comrade Salimov, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Within the framework of the days, public rallies and meetings took place, photo-exhibitions were organized, and Iraqi artistes gave concerts. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2304 GMT 24 Aug 85 LD]

REAGAN'S PRAISE OF CENTRAL AMERICA POLICY SCORNED

LD231620 Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, August 23 TASS -- TASS commentator Ruslan Knyazev writes:

President Ronald Reagan of the United States, in a speech in California on Thursday, [22 Aug] referred to Washington's policy in Central America as "one of the proudest accomplishments" of the administration headed by him. In so doing he did not stint praises in giving an estimate of the situation in the region, which, ostensibly, has greatly improved during his stay in the White House, and promised to continue to give aid to the peoples of Central America in building free, prosperous and democratic states.

What is the President pleased with? Did Central American countres achieve peace and prosperity with the aid of the United States over the four and a half years of his stay in office? Or did they manage with Washington's support to get rid of anti-people dictatorial regimes?

No, facts indicate that the contrary is the case. The crisis in the region has become exacerbated to the utmost in recent years. And this is first of all resultant of the Central American policy of the White House. It is precisely the United States that frustrates all efforts aimed at bringing about a peaceful political settlement. Washington's gross interference is the main cause why the draft "act of peace and cooperation in Central America", which has long been prepared, by the Contadora Group countries, has not been signed up to now.

Under the present administration the United States has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to keep the regime of its puppets in El Salvador. What kind of "freedom" can one speak of in that country where there is an utter lack of elementary human rights and where the rulers are conducting an extermination war against their own people? And what kind of "prosperity" can one speak of if multi-million dollar injections are unable to save the Salvadoran economy from complete ruin.

The U.S. President did not spare fine words, speaking of a "struggle for democracy" in Nicaragua. In actual fact the United States is conducting an undeclared war against that sovereign country through the Somocistas who are in the pay of the White House. The war in which all means will do -- the murders of old men, women and children and piratic actions against peaceful merchant vessels of foreign states. In so doing the White House unceasingly gives greater scope to its anti-Nicaraguan actions and provokes expansion of the conflict, actively preparing for a U.S. armed forces' direct intervention in Nicaragua.

Such is the current political reality in Central America. Such are the facts of the policy of aggression and piracy which the White House is so proud of.

NICARAGUA CLAIMS CIA PLANNED BISHOP'S SLAYING

LD241041 Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Managua, August 24 TASS -- The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has planned an assassination of Nicaraguan Bishop Salvador Schlaffer in order to lay the blame for his death on the government of Nicaragua, Alberto Mayorga, a former counter-revolutionary, who voluntarily surrendered to revolutionary authorities in Matagalpa Department, has stated here. THE NEUVA [as received] Nicaragua News Agency points out that Alberto Mayorga, according to his own accounts, took part in CIA hirelings' attack on Salvador Schlaffer in April this year. As a result of the attack the religious leader was wounded.

The leader of the Somocista band that had organised the assassination attempt had given an automatic rifle to Mayorga and ordered him to shoot the bishop. "He said if I hit the target the CIA would pay a lot of dollars to me and that the Sandinistas would be blamed for the murder", Mayorga stated. Together with dozens of other hirelings he availed himself of the amnesty announced by the government of Nicaragua.

By a decision of the republic's National Assembly the amnesty for persons involved in counter-revolutionary actions has been extended till July 19, next year. In recent months about 90 Nicarguan citizens who had been drawn into the activities of Somocista bands by force or deception, downed arms in Matagalpa Department alone and returned to normal life.

TASS VIEWS U.S.-HONDURAN 'CABANAS-85' EXERCISES

LD231304 Moscow TASS in English 1247 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Madrid, August 23 TASS -- The United States and Honduras will hold joint military maneuvers on August 27-31, the Spanish news agency EFE reports from Tegucigalpa. The main purpose of that military show, code-named Cabanas-85, is to practice "guerrilla base dismantling" operations.

More than 1,000 servicemen from special operations units of the U.S. Army are to arrive in Honduras to take part in the exercises.

During the U.S.-Honduran maneuvers it is planned to carry out air bombing and landing operations of helicopter-borne troops. A 900-man strong battalion of the U.S. Corps of Engineers was airlifted to Honduras to prepare the operations. It is building roads and other structures.

The five-day maneuvers will enable the United States to build up its military presence in Honduras substantially.

ORTEGA OUTLINES U.S. PLANS FOR INTERVENTION

LD251306 Moscow TASS in English 1256 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] Managua, August 25 TASS -- The Reagan administration is preparing ground for direct armed intervention in Nicaragua, by using reactionary bourgeois elements inside the country as a tool of its subversive activities. This was stated here by president of the Republic of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega.

Speaking in the Face the Nation radio and television programme, he firmly denounced the policy of betraying the interests of the motherland, which is being carried out by internal reaction with a view of reviving in Nicaragua an anti-people's Somoza-type regime of oppression and exploitation.

On Washington's instruction, internal counterrevolution is trying to destabilize the national economy, maliciously slanders people's power through its press organs financed by the CIA, the president said. Ideological subversive acts by enemies of the Nicaraguan people are aimed at provoking a direct American intervention. Exactly such an aim was pursued by the recent letter of one of the owners of the reactionary "PRENSA" newspaper, Violeta Chamorro, addressed to the general secretary of the Organisation of American States in which she accuses the Sandinist National Liberation Front of "having departed from the initial project of the revolution" and demands that the Sandinists should give up their course of socioeconomic transformations. This is an obvious attempt to give the Reagan administration a pretext for provocative statements that in Nicaragua there are "influential people who would agree to intrusion of American troops," said Daniel Ortega.

The president of Nicaragua noted that U.S. military, political and economic aggression had led to serious difficulties in the sphere of production. But the government of the republic, he said, does not seek to resolve economic problems at the expense of the working people, as it is being done in many other Latin American countries. Daniel Ortega stressed that the Nicaraguan people supported the policy of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and was fully determined to uphold the gains of the revolution from encroachments of American imperialism and its flunkeys inside the country.

GORBACHEV, LEADERS HOLD ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

PM261044 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Aug 85 First Edition p 1

["At the CPSU Central Committee" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] A conference took place 23 August, the CPSU Central Committee on questions of working out plans for the economic and social development of the USSR for the year 1986 and for the 12th 5-Year Plan period. Taking part in the work of the conference were deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, leaders and secretaries of the party committees of the ministries and departments, senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU, and the VLKSM [Komsomol] Central Committee.

A report on the progress of working out the plans was made by Baybakov, chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee. Speakers in the discussion on this question were: Velichko, USSR minister of power machine building; Afanasyev, USSR minister of heavy and transport machine building; Kolpakov, minister of ferrous metallurgy of the USSR; Listov, USSR minister of the chemical industry; Yezhevskiy, USSR minister of tractor and agricultural machine building; Busygin, USSR minister of the timber, pulp and paper, and wood processing industry; Balmont, USSR minister of the machine tool and tool building industry; Zotov, chairman of the board of the USSR Bank for Financing Capital Investments; Filanovskiy, first deputy minister of the petroleum industry of the USSR; Podobedov, first deputy minister of installation and special construction work of the USSR; Demin, first deputy minister of the meat and dairy industry of the USSR; Kolomiyets, first deputy minister of the food industry of the USSR.

A long speech was made at the conference by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He noted that the whole party and the whole people now live and work in a responsible period of preparation for the 27th CPSU Congress. One of the most important documents of the congress will be the basic directions of the economic and social development of the country for the 12th 5-Year Plan period and for the period up to the year 2000, which will become formalized in the yearly plans.

The CPSU Central Committee attaches particular importance to the preparation for the draft of the plan for 1986, the launch year of the 12th 5-Year Plan. It is essential to reflect in it to the full the policy worked out by the CPSU Central Committee April 1985 Plenum and approved by the people, for accelerating the socioeconomic development of the country, for comprehensive intensification and raising the efficiency of production, and for the further strengthening of discipline and the degree of organization.

The work of the national economy during the first year of the 5-year plan period must produce maximum results; it must set the necessary pace and become the commencement of a responsible stage in which the directions of the party on ensuring a radical turning-point in the development of the economy are implemented in practice. In this connection, the development of the plan for 1986 is a serious examination for economic cadres and an indicator of the day in which they are reshaping the methods and style of their work in practice of how they are further improving their economic activity in accordance with the new requirements.

The main criterion for the appraisal of the draft plan for each ministry and department is the way in which it corresponds to the tasks mapped out in the draft basic directions for the economic and social development of the USSR for the 12th 5-Year Plan period.

In order to ensure that this task is carried out, one should support and disseminate by every means the initiative of the labor collectives, the association and enterprises, and the industrial sectors which are taking upon themselves pledges to exceed the control figures that have been set for them on the basis of the wide introduction of scientific and technical achievements and front-ranking experience. They are bringing into action reserves of production, saving material and financial resources, raising the level of organization, and improving the quality of all work.

Sharp critical remarks were voiced at the meeting about industrial, construction and transport ministries which are slow in reorganizing their work on an intensive path of development and which are not ensuring in the required measure the fulfillment of the party's demands for a steep increase in the main technical and economic indices, for the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, and for the rational utilization of material resources. The importance was indicated of improving in every way possible in 1986 the work of the sectors of the fuel and energy complex and the production of construction materials, of expanding the output and raising the quality of consumer goods, and the provision of consumer services.

It was stressed that the task of meeting the demands of the population must be tackled through the efforts of all ministries and departments, irrespective of their sectorial specialization. Attention was drawn to the necessity of making provisions in the plan for next year for the implementation of measures to accelerate scientific-technical progress and to intensify the economy drive which were drawn up at the June conference in the CPSU Central Committee. The particular responsibility was stressed to the machine-building ministries, which are being allocated a large amount of financial and material resources in the coming 5-year period.

It was noted that major role in raising the rate of growth of the country's social and economic development belongs to capital construction, the raising of its level of industrialization, the concentration of capital investments and the reorientation of the sector in the direction of expanding work to re-equip technically and modernize the country's production potential. It was proposed that construction using the direct-labor method and the financial resources of enterprises should be used more sidely to these ends, that priority material and technical back-up for this work should be arranged.

It was recommended to ministries and departments to continue work to improve plan projections for 1986 in line with the new tasks of the development of the country's economy and to back them up with specific organizational and technical measures.

The need was stressed to unfailingly fulfill the plan and socialist pledges for the current year, as this is the point of departure for the successful performance of new tasks in the forthcoming 5-year period. The importance of mobilizing the efforts of party organizations, economic bodies, and all labor collectives to fulfill the plan targets and for a worthy yield to the 27th CPSU Congress was also stressed.

Comrades Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Ryzhkov, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, Yeltsin, Zaykov, Zimyanin, Kapitonov, and Nikonov took part in the proceedings of the conference at the CPSU Central Committee.

DEMICHEV ATTENDS MOSCOW THEATER PREMIERE

PM251315 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Aug 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report under the rubric "News": "Premiere in the Capital"]

[Text] The Chita Oblast Drama Theater has arrived on its first artistic visit to Moscow. Its presentations opened at the Moscow Arts Theater 21 August.

The tour's repertoire includes plays dealing with modern subjects and works from our classics.

P.M. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, was present at the opening performance by the Chita Oblast Drama Theater.

DOLGIKH ATTENDS MINERS' DAY CEREMONIES

LD232218 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2004 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] A festive session took place on 23 August in Moscow's Hall of Columns of the House of Unions, devoted to Miners' Day and to the 50th anniversary of the Stakhanov movement. In the presidium were: Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Shcherbina, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; other leaders, and socialist competition winners.

Comrade Bratchenko, USSR minister of the coal industry, delivered a report. The participants in the festive session gave assurances that workers of the industry will apply all their strength, knowledge, and experience for the successful fulfillment of the tasks of the 5-year plan period.

DEPUTY MINISTER APPOINTMENTS REPORTED

PM251330 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSSR (OTDEL PERVYY) in Russian No 20, 1985, carries on pages 364-365 two USSR Council of Ministers decrees signed by N. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and M. Smirtyukov, administrator of affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers, to the following effect: G.V. Falaleyev is appointed deputy minister of transport construction (10 June 1985); Ye.V. Zaytsev is appointed USSR first deputy minister of culture and relieved of his duties as USSR deputy minister of culture for cadres (21 June 1985).

RSFSR COUNCIL DISCUSSES GAS SUPPLIES, TRACTORS

PM231546 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 21 Aug 85 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium has examined the question of measures to further develop the supply of gas to cities and other population centers in the republic in 1986-90. It was noted that natural gas is used in hundreds of cities and worker settlements and in thousands of rural population centers.

In the past years of the current 5-year plan the rate of gas supply work has somewhat increased, but it is still inadequate and the level of provisions of gas facilities remains on the whole quite low. The main reason for this is delay in constructing gas distribution networks. Ministries, departments, and local ispolkoms are not taking adequate measures to ensure that consumers are prepared in good time to receive natural gas.

Ways of eliminating the shortcomings and speeding up all work connected with supplying gas to cities and other population centers were determined.

Four years ago, by decision of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture [Goskomselkhozteknika] was instructed to organize the production of tractor-trailers in order to cope with the ever-increasing amount of agricultural freight being transported. How is the resolution being carried out? The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium noted that the targets are regularly not being net. In 1982-84 and the first half of this year, agriculure experienced a shortfall of 33,000 tractor trailers and more than 18,000 body attachments for them. The retooling of plants producing these items is being carried out too slowly, assembly techniques and the rules for storing subassemblies and parts are being infringed, and the quality of the trailors produced remains poor. Most assembly plants producing them are not up to standard and fail to meet the technical conditions.

Many shortcomings, as was stressed at the session, are the result of the lack of monitoring and responsibility on the part of some leaders in the RSFSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika, the USSR Ministry of Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, and other organizations supplying components.

The session was chaired by V. I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

KALININ OBKOM CHIEF RETIRES; TATARCHUK ELECTED

LD241446 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] A plenum of the Kalinin Obkom was held today. It examined an organizational question. The plenum released Comrade Leonov from the responsibility of first secreatry of the Obkom in connection with his retirement on pension.

Comrade Tatarchuk, who has worked as chief of the all-Union Agrochemical Services to Agriculture Scientific Production Assoication and USSR deputy minister of agriculture, has been elected first secretary of the Kalinin Obkom.

Comrade Razumovskiy, chief of the Organizational Party Work Department, took part in the plenum's work.

PRAVDA CITES COMPLAINTS ABOUT CONSUMER GOODS

PM230920 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 August 1985 First Edition carries on page 3, under the rubric "Letters Review," a 2,400-word article by V. Brovkin entitled "What Do the Stores Offer Today."

The article is introduced by the following note, printed in boldface:

"A RIGID PLAN AND MARKET DEMAND. Sometimes these terms are perceived as mutually exclusive, as opposites. Nonetheless, they constantly coexist in trade. The output of consumer goods by enterprises and money turnover in the stores are regulated by the plan. That is one side of the coin. The other side is our earnings, our personal money, which gives us the freedom to buy a product or not. We do not accept the unattractive goods which gather dust in piles on the shelves, while we form lines to buy the famous goods in short supply."

Brovkin then begins this article:

"So how are we to combine the plan and the population's demand? This problem, discussed in the newspaper's pages under the rubric 'industry-trade-purchaser,' perturbs readers. There have been many responses. Their authors not only analyze the prevailing situation but also express suggestions as to how to improve the supply of goods to the population.

"The thought underlying the letters is: The plans of the industry producing these goods and the plans of trade often do not accord with the population's demand." After citing excerpts from letters criticizing poor planning, the author goes on:

"It is well known that the USSR Gosplan and other central departments plan only the production of the goods that are most important and complicated to produce. The enterprises producing the millions of other articles are set production targets in monetary terms. Their specific output is regulated by contracts with the trade sector. Right away the plans lose their rigidity and become more pliable than modeling clay. Their content is determined not so much by demand but by various 'objective' factors -- shortages in materials and components deliveries, difficulties in reorganizing production for new articles, and so on. Plan fulfillment in monetary terms is, as a rule, fully up to date and there is even an increase 'over what has been achieved.'"

Brovkin says that "the consequences of the 'gross' approach to planning can be seen by anyone who visits a store," and quotes G. Sivak from Dnepropetrovsk: "Almost on the scale of a natural disaster, the shelves of our stores are flooded by the faded hues of poor-quality fabrics."

According to the author, "readers are even more perturbed by the shortage of goods. No one knows what will be in short supply tomorrow." He then goes on to quote letters at length from readers all over the USSR complaining about shortages and the poor quality of consumer goods, concluding:

"Our country has vast raw materials resources. We are not short of talented designers, pattern-makers, and skilled workers. The mark 'Made in the USSR' must be a guarantee of good quality, fashionability, and a full set of consumer qualities up to the standard of similar products elsewhere in the world -- this is what N. Kadilov from Novosibirsk, M. Tsvetkov from Kaunas, A. Nikolayev from Kuybyshev, and I. Minchenko from Shakhty, Rostov Oblast, all write. If this is achieved, shopping will become a pleasure for everyone."

NEW CONSUMER SERVICES IN RSFSR SCRUTINIZED

LD232207 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1140 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] The economic experiment which is being conducted at consumer service enterprises in a number of the country's union and autonomous republics, krays and oblasts has already resulted in a certain improvement in services for the population. Labor organization is improving, the execution quality of orders is rising, and new types of services are being introduced. At the same time, shortcomings are also coming to light. Our correspondent has interviewed Vitaliy Mikhaylovich Zamula, RSFSR first deputy minister of consumer services:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Vitaliy Mikhaylovich, the consumer services have recently been doing a great deal to meet the population's requirements. However, at the same time the demand for services is not being fully met, and the position varies in different regions of the republic.

[Zamula] That is indeed so in our practical work, in individual regions of our republic. Consumer services are doing well in Voronezh, Saratov and other oblasts. These new types of services are provided in Sverdlovsk Oblast, the Mordovo ASSR, and Ulyanovsk, Lipetsk and other oblasts: Furniture retailed in kit form for home assembly; the cleaning of down and feather articles, (including sewing their covers); cleaning carpets and carpet-type articles, combined with their renovation; and shirt laundering and mending. Do-it-yourself and hand skills types of rental enterprises will be widely developed. Here at workshops fitted with metal-working, turning, carpentry and other equipment anyone according to their inclinations, in their free time, will be able to make things for the house out of the materials provided at the rental enterprises, or carry out different kinds of small repairs using tools which they can rent. In our view, this work is developing well in Stavropol Kray, and Kuybyshev and Belgorod Oblasts.

In a number of our republic's regions however -- Krasnoyarsk Kray, Novgorod, Murmansk, Tyumen and some other oblasts -- this work is unsatisfactory. That is why production associations, specialized enterprises and all our structural subunits are devoting much attention to the development of new types and forms of services during the economic experiment. Thus in 1985, more time began to be devoted to the further expansion of the servicing agreement system for repairs to radio and television sets and domestic appliances, and of the system of leaving and collecting orders at combined reception points at industrial enterprises, institutions, educational establishments and students' and workers' hostels.

Such kinds of consumer services as the renting of agricultural implements directly, in places where horticultural societies are situated, will become more widespread. Within the conditions of the experiment particular attention is being paid by the enterprises of our industry to workers in agriculture, where workers in consumer services jointly with them work out schedules for the provision of mobile services to rural populations, taking into account their occupation with agricultural work, at animal husbandry complexes and the time which is most convenient for them. The top-notch workers of our industry are singled out for this work. The length of time spent on meeting orders is being reduced, thus all rural population's needs are being satisfied more fully. Through the introduction of new kinds of consumer services, additional services of approximately R30 million will be received in our republic by the end of the year.

[Correspondent] Vitaliy Mikhaylovich, which kinds of services are in particular demand today?

[Zamula] In connection with the development in recent years of horticultural societies and the building of garden sheds, the population has begun to turn to consumer service enterprises increasingly and, to be more specific, to the rental workshops to obtain tools to cultivate the soil and cutting instruments for chopping and sawing wood. We have acquired the first motor units with eight mounted implements. These items are in great demand. However they are mainly sold on the open market and only a minority reach us. It is necessary that this technology be precisely with us, since most of the population would then be able to use these tools.

[Correspondent] And one more thing: What are the difficulties facing consumer services today?

[Zamula] Unfortunately we are not fully satisfying the needs of our younger generation, or indeed the needs of adults. When they take vacations we cannot satisfy their needs regarding the provision of items for the use of tourists, such as sports tents, and musical instruments, so that their vacations are enjoyable and pleasant.

[Correspondent] What is the reason for this?

[Zamula] The reason is that we receive these items in extremely limited quantities directly from the open market. The time has come for us to address this problem seriously and to satisfy fully the demand for tourist and sports items at enterprises for consumer services. [end recording]

This is particularly important in connection with the fact that the party is raising the question of the development of active vacations, tourism and mountain climbing. One has to hope that the planning bodies in the Ministry of Trade and the bodies of the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply will help the enterprises in the services sphere supply themselves with the necessary items. However, one has to note that the RSFSR Ministry for Consumer Services itself, the ministries of union and autonomous republics are still being timid in their application of the basically new kinds and forms of consumer services. They are not being helped sufficiently by the local soviets of the people's deputies, enterprises, kolkhozes and sovkhozes. But this is our common cause.

MOLNIYA-1 COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE LAUNCHED

LD231237 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1146 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, 23 Aug TASS -- The latest Molniya-1 communications satellite was launched on Thursday in the Soviet Union. The Molniya-1 communications satellite is designed to ensure operation of the long-distance telephone and telegraph radio communication system, as well as the transmission of USSR Central Television programs to points of the Orbita network.

The satellite was put into a high-elliptical orbit with an apogee of 40638 kilometers in the northern hemisphere and a perigee of 656 kilometers in the southern hemisphere. The satellite's period of revolution is 12 hours 16 minutes, and the angle of orbit 62.8 degrees. Communications sessions via the "Molniya-1" satellite will be held in conformity with the set program.

LAUNCH OF COSMOS-1677 EARTH SATELLITE REPORTED

LD240925 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0851 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, 24 Aug TASS -- The launch of the latest artificial earth satellite Cosmos-1677 took place today in the Soviet Union. Installed on board the satellite is scientific apparatus intended for continuing space research.

The satellite has been put into orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution - 89.6 minutes; maximum distance from the surface of the earth (in apogee) - 280 kilometers: minimum distance from the surface of the earth (in perigree) - 255 kilometers; inclination of orbit - 65 degrees. The apparatus installed on the satellite is working normally.

SIX POINT EARTHQUAKE JOLTS TASHKENT

LD231731 Moscow TASS in English 1720 GMT 23 Aug 85

[Text] Tashkent, August 23 TASS -- The Tashkent seismic station recorded an earthquake at 16:41 Moscow time today. The epicentre of the quake was located on the border of Kirgizia and the People's Republic of China. The tremors reached six points on the Richter scale in Fergana, Andizhan and Namangan, five points in the rest of the Fergana valley, three points in Tashkent, Alma-Ata and Dushanbe and 3-4 points in Frunze.